

SLA man kills UNIFIL soldier

TEL AVIV (AP) — An Irish soldier from the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) was killed by an Israeli-backed militia member Saturday, a U.N. spokesman said. The soldier was hit in the head by a machinegun bullet, fired by a South Lebanon Army militiaman near the village of Brashit, 25 kilometres southeast of the Lebanese port city of Tyre, Timor Goksel told AP. Goksel said there was no reason for the shooting. "There was no tension, he just opened fire," he said. Goksel said the Irish soldier was the 138th U.N. soldier to be killed since UNIFIL was deployed in 1978. The South Lebanon Army is a force of about 1,000 Israeli-backed Lebanese who patrol a Israeli-designated "security zone" in South Lebanon.

Jordan Times

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جورنال تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الراي.

Tunisia offers to host summit

KUWAIT (R) — Tunisia's Prime Minister Rachid Sfar said in remarks published on Saturday that his country was ready to host an Arab summit when it was decided to hold one. "We are ready to host all the Arab leaders any time they decide," he told the Kuwaiti daily Al Qabas in Tunis. In an interview, he described relations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as "clear and strong" and denied Palestinians in Tunisia suffered harassment. "Such rumours are baseless," he declared. He said a departure of Palestinian military personnel had been arranged in agreement with the Palestinian leadership, who had shown understanding of the country's circumstances and international relations. He did not elaborate.

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Dajani briefs Cabinet on Tunis talks

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet held an ordinary meeting on Saturday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and was briefed by Interior Minister Rajai Al Dajani on the outcome of the recent meetings of the Council of Arab Interior Ministers held in Tunis. The Cabinet also endorsed a draft law amending the investments law and another amendment to the law on controlling insurance companies' operations. They also discussed a number of topics on the meeting's agenda and took decisions.

Egypt frees riot suspects pending trial

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's supreme state security court on Saturday ordered the release without bail of 161 police conscripts pending their trial on charges of rioting last February, inciting unrest and damaging property. The conscripts, most of them in their late teens and early twenties, rose in the crowded courtroom shouting "Long live justice" after the three-judge panel announced its decision. They have been held for 10 months under emergency laws.

Thatcher calls for end to U.S. crisis

LONDON (AP) — Leaders of the European Community (EC) on Saturday ended a two-day summit meeting and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher called for Western unity at a time of domestic trouble in the United States. Mrs. Thatcher told reporters that "anything that weakens America, weakens Europe. Indeed, it weakens the whole of the free world." Therefore, "it is my great hope that things will soon return to normal in the United States," she said.

Weinberger arrives in London

LONDON (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger arrived in London on Saturday on the last leg of a trip to Europe and Morocco that has been dominated by questions about the Iranian arms sale scandal raging in Washington. At every stop he has sought to assure U.S. allies that President Reagan's motives in authorising the sales were valid and that the greatest crisis in Mr. Reagan's six-year presidency would not weaken his leadership over the long term (See page 2).

U.S. said to drop probe against Waldheim

VIENNA (R) — A leading Austrian newspaper said Saturday the U.S. Justice Department would drop before Christmas an investigation into Austrian President Kurt Waldheim's alleged Nazi activities. But the conservative daily Die Presse quoted sources in the probe team as saying investigators had yet to decide how to justify not putting Dr. Waldheim on the so-called "watch list" restricting entry into the United States. Dr. Waldheim has always denied allegations by the New York-based World Jewish Congress that he was involved in war crimes as a member of Hitler's army in the Balkans.

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Odeh presents JD 1.018 billion draft budget to Lower House

- JD 258m for defence and internal security
- JD 364m for public administration • JD 262m for economic development • JD 39m deficit to be covered through loans and better tax collection

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

FINANCE Minister Hanna Odeh presented the JD 1.018 billion draft budget for 1987 to the Lower House of Parliament on Saturday, outlining the government's major policy objectives inherent in the allocations for the various national sectors.

In his presentation at an ordinary session of the House, Dr. Odeh said the government's constants on defence spending and controlling and rationalising public expenditure remained unchanged.

The minister said the budget, which for the first time exceeds the JD 1 billion mark in Jordan's history, envisaged an incoming revenue of JD 979.1 million and

that the government expected to cover the JD 39.6 million deficit through loans, cuts on public spending and improved revenues derived from better collection of taxes.

The House session was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Cabinet members in addition to almost all deputies and some members of the Upper House.



Dr. Hanna Odeh

In his 70-minute statement to the House, Dr. Odeh said the budget had made provisions for spending JD 258 million on

defence and public security, JD 364.3 million on public administration and JD 262.2 million on economic development and allocated JD 132.2 million for social and cultural sectors.

A major character of the new budget is the general trend towards controlling and rationalising public expenditure and increasing local revenues and easing procedures for facilitating the collection of taxes, Dr. Odeh said. He said the government hoped that through this policy it could save sufficient funds for covering current expenses and finance capital expenses.

The 1987 budget, the minister said, provides for supporting the Armed Forces, the shield of the nation, and for extending

(Continued on page 5)

15 deputies ask for special session on 'information policy'

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Fifteen members of the Lower House of Parliament on Saturday demanded a special House session to discuss the government's policy on information, with special focus on coverage of Parliament sessions.

The request was triggered by comments made by Maan Deputy Yousef Al Athem, who referred to the official media coverage of the House's session on Nov. 23, during which the legislators approved a proposal condemning Britain for its decision to break off diplomatic ties with Syria.

That proposal, although not included on the House's working agenda, then was made by Deputy Leith Shbeilat (Amman) and was passed by the House unopposed. In Saturday's session, deputies Athem, Fawzi Shaker Al Toumanah (Fuhais), Mifteh Al Odeh (Ajlun), Bedouine, and Mohammed Al Haj Abdulla (Irbid) urged the House to hold a "special session" to discuss "official censorship" regarding the legislative body's meetings and on the relationship between the government's policy on the media coverage of parliament

debates. According to the members of the Lower House, the deputies' request for a meeting with the government on its information policy was prompted by the official media's handling of the proposal to condemn Britain on Nov. 23. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, and the radio and television stations did not give details of the proceedings of the Nov. 23 session, and the House's decision to condemn Britain was only touched upon in passing reference or greatly played down, deputies charged.

The 15 deputies signed a memo and presented it to Speaker Akel Al Fayez asking for a special session. The deputies, who signed the letter of request were: Fouad Qasbi (Amman), Dr. Toumaneh, Fouad Faraj (Jerusalem), Haj Abdulla, Mr. Shbeilat, Wahid Al Jabari (Hebron), Abdullah Al Aqaleh (Tafilah), Hafez Abdul Nabbi (Hebron), Ahmad Al Koubaili (Irbid), Mufeed Al Mubaslat (Nablies), Riyad Al Nawaiseh (Karak), Mousa Abu Ghoush (Ramallah), Mr. Athem, Fayyad Jarrar (Jenin) and Ribhi Mustapha (Tulkarm).

The request was not included in topics of discussion for Saturday's House session. The session was

held for the government to present its 1987 fiscal budget and to refer a number of laws to the House's various committees.

Raising the issue of what he called government interference in shaping the outcome of Parliament decisions was Deputy Athem, who said that while the world media mentioned the deliberations of the Nov. 23 session and our respective decision to denounce Britain, the official Jordanian media disregarded our noble decision regarding the condemnation.

Mr. Athem contended that the official media blackout on reporting the earlier session's decisions was due to "personal and direct recommendations and telephone calls," that the information minister, Mr. Mohammad Al Khatib, conducted with local correspondents and with the officials of local newspapers.

Dr. Toumaneh, who won his seat in the 1984 elections, said the House had total right to draft its resolutions. "The media apparatus have no right to block out any of our decisions," said Dr. Toumaneh, a professor of

(Continued on page 3)

House condemns U.S.-Iran arms deal

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Lower House of Parliament on Saturday sent separate cables to His Majesty King Hussein and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein condemning American arms supplies to Iran.

In their cable to King Hussein, the House voiced total appreciation of and support for the King's stand vis-a-vis the Arab causes in general and the Iran-Iraq war in particular.

"The Lower House of Parliament supports Your Majesty's constant efforts and endeavours which aim at creating a united Arab stand, reviving Arab consolidation and implementing the joint pan-Arab defence pact," the House speaker, Akel Al Fayez, said in his cable to King Hussein.

The 60-member House also denounced the American-Israeli support for Iran and said that "the arm supplies to the Iranian regime are bound to enable it to pursue its 'sinister conspiracy against the Arab Nation'."

"The Lower House of Parliament appreciates Your Majesty's national endeavours and fully backs your stand on the Gulf war. Iraq is waging a just war in defence of the whole Arab Nation in the face of the aggression launched by the Iranian regime, which so far has rejected all bids to stop the war that only serves the interests of the enemies of the Arab and Islamic nations," said the cable.

The two cables were sent after the House unanimously voted in favour of a proposal submitted by Deputy Jamal Obaidat during Saturday's session.

In the House's cable to President Hussein, the deputies voiced their total support for Iraq's heroic stand in its war against Iran and denounced the American-Israeli support for Iran.

"We call on the Arab Umma to adhere to the Joint-Arab Defence Pact and to removing all opportunities for the Iranian regime to continue its aggression on Iraq," Mr. Fayez stated in the cable he sent to President Hussein.

Mr. Obaidat, who secured his seat in the Irbid by-elections held in June, told the House during Saturday's session that the parties behind the attacks on Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in South Lebanon and in the Golan Heights "are the same hands involved in the Iraqi war."

Mr. Obaidat called on the

Palestinian protests rock occupied lands

Israelis open fire and arrest 65

Combined agency dispatches

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Widespread Palestinian protests rocked the occupied West Bank, Gaza and Jerusalem on Saturday over the death of three Palestinians in the past two days and Israeli soldiers opened fire to disperse demonstrators.

Israeli police arrested at least 65 Palestinians in nearly a dozen West Bank towns and refugee camps and it was not known how many Palestinians were injured in the shooting.

The demonstrations, for the third day running, included chanting anti-Israeli slogans, throwing rocks and burning tyres, according to news agencies.

Three soldiers were wounded by rocks in separate incidents, in Hebron 30 kilometres south of Jerusalem, at the Kalandiya refugee camp near Jerusalem and near Ramallah 25 kilometres north of Jerusalem, AP said.

Israel Radio reported that a border policeman was hit by a rock near the Old City in Jerusalem.

In addition to arresting more than 65 Palestinians, the Israeli authorities clamped curfews on Ramallah and Nablus, the radio said. The curfew in Ramallah was later lifted.

The demonstrations followed the shooting deaths of three Palestinians over the past two days.

On Thursday, soldiers killed two students at Birzeit University 40 kilometres north of Jerusalem and wounded about 30 when they opened fire to break up a demonstration.

A 14-year-old youth from the Balata refugee camp near Nablus 60 kilometres north of Jerusalem was killed Friday when hundreds of residents stoned an Israeli patrol.

Gaza merchants carried out a total commercial strike Saturday to protest the killings, an eyewitness reported, AP said.

Israel Radio quoted a senior army officer as saying extra troops had been moved to the occupied areas and would remain there until the trouble subsided.

New Amal-Palestinian ceasefire is shattered

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanese Amal militiamen and Palestinian fighters battled in Beirut and South Lebanon on Saturday, shattering an Iranian-brokered ceasefire less than 24 hours after it went into effect, police said.

Iranian delegates quickly began contacts with representatives of the warring factions seeking to contain the sudden escalation and reinstate the truce in Beirut and Sidon, 40 kilometres to the south.

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) fighters and Shiite Amal militiamen duelled with mortars and rockets around Beirut's Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh camps shortly before dusk, resuming their 13-day-old hostilities.

Fighting between the two forces also flared in Maghdousheh, a contested hilltop village, five kilometres southeast of Sidon. Amal, the dominant Shiite militia, and the PLO blamed each other for the latest escalation.

The truce was called by Amal leader Nabih Berri "in response to the appeal of the Iranian Islamic Republic."

The Palestinians said they would go along with the call and the guns fell silent at 7 p.m. (1700 GMT) on Friday.

Amal sources quoted by Reuters said the fighting flared when Palestinian fighters attacked Amal positions on the perimeter of the besieged Shatila camp shortly after noon on Saturday.

They also accused Palestinian snipers of preventing the reopening of the main road to Beirut airport, which runs alongside the Bourj Al Barajneh camp.

Palestinian sources said Amal fighters bombarded Shatila with fire from Soviet-made T-54 tanks. They had no word on casualties.

The mainstream Fatah faction of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was not a party to Friday's accord, which was agreed by the Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF).

Amal and the PNSF pledged to uphold the truce at five camps in Beirut and near the southern cities of Sidon and Tyre.

They agreed at a meeting with Iranian diplomats in Sidon on

Saturday that Palestinian fighters would start withdrawing from the strategic hill-top village of Maghdousheh at 1600 GMT on Friday, the Voice of the Homeland radio reported. But there was no sign of a withdrawal after the deadline passed.

The PLO also accused Amal on Saturday of "massacring" seven Palestinians, including four women, in South Lebanon.

The bodies of 14 Palestinian civilians slain by hooded gunmen, were recovered Friday from several west Beirut neighbourhoods. They also included four women and two children.

Police said two people were killed and 24 wounded in the fighting Saturday. The casualties included four Lebanese civilians who were wounded when two Soviet-made Grad rockets struck the heart of Sidon.

This raised the known toll to 427 killed and 918 wounded.

Police said they could not determine which side fired at the city of 200,000 inhabitants.

Iraqis bomb Iranian plant

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraqi air force jets flew 1,100 kilometres on Saturday to bomb the Middle East's largest power plant north of Tehran, Baghdad Radio reported.

The radio said other Iraqi jets twice bombed a second, smaller, power plant, two water treatment plants and a pipe factory in Ahwaz, capital of the southern Iranian oil province of Khuzestan.

It added that the Haft-Tappeh railway station north of Ahwaz was bombed for the second time in as many days. A railway bridge linking the station with the city also was destroyed.

The radio said in the attack on the Naga power station on the Caspian Sea 200 kilometres north of Tehran, the jets fired rockets from a distance, touching off explosions in the installations and turbines.

"After covering all that distance and destroying their targets, the jets returned safely to base, leaving the area covered in clouds of smoke," the radio added.

Earlier, Iran said Iraqi warplanes bombed residential areas in Ahwaz killing a number of people.

Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said Iranian artillery would begin shelling Iraqi industrial and economic centres Saturday in retaliation.

Arab ministers to discuss 'camps war' on Monday

TUNIS (Agencies) — Arab foreign ministers will hold an emergency meeting in Tunis on Monday to discuss the fighting in Lebanon, between Palestinians and Amal militiamen, a spokesman for the 21-member Arab League said.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had asked for such a meeting to discuss nine weeks of fighting around Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut and southern Lebanon between Palestinians and the Shiite Amal movement.

At least 500 people have been killed in the fighting.

The Arab League spokesman told Reuters that all 21 members of the organisation had agreed to the meeting but it was not known at this stage how many foreign ministers would attend.

An Iranian-mediated truce was declared on Friday to halt the fighting but battles erupted again on Saturday.

On Friday Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba called for a halt in the violence after receiving a message from PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat stressing the gravity of the situation.

Mr. Arafat's Fatah movement, backbone of the PLO, Saturday announced a four-point draft for a settlement to the 13-day-old "camps war" in Lebanon.

Salah Khalaf, cofounder of Fatah, said the draft will be submitted to the conference of Arab foreign ministers planned for Monday in Tunis.

Mr. Khalaf spoke from Kuwait in a telephone interview with the Associated Press in Nicosia.

Mr. Khalaf listed the four points as: — An immediate ceasefire in Beirut and South Lebanon. — Lifting the sieges of the refugee camps of Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh in Beirut and Rashidiyeh in the South Lebanon city of Tyre.

— Arab guarantees that Amal will not attack any of the camps again; — The PLO presence in Lebanon to be discussed with the Lebanese government and nationalist and Islamic forces trusted by the PLO and which did not take part in the fighting.

He said the short-lived Iranian-brokered ceasefire in Lebanon was a "show to try and block the ministerial conference."

Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi said Saturday he would summon members of the Palestine National Council to Libya unless fighting ceased around Lebanon's refugee camps.

Colonel Qadhafi said in a cable to Khaled Al Fahoum, a former speaker of the council, that he considered that any Palestinian who fought against another Palestinian was a traitor.

"I have decided to call a meeting of the Palestine National Council in Tripoli if fighting does not stop within 48 hours around Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon," the cable said.

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(Continued on page 5)

Weinberger backs Reagan's motives in Iran arms deal

RABAT (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger Saturday defended President Reagan's motives in the sale of arms to Iran, which has become the biggest political crisis to face the American leader since he took office six years ago.

The defence secretary told a news conference here that he had no doubts of the extent of the U.S. arms shipment beyond what had been reported in the press.

But he said the president's motives were extremely praiseworthy as an attempt to secure a better relationship with a strategically important country.

"It was unfortunate that it did not work. There was no suggestion that the question would put at stake the relationship we had with Morocco and other Arab states," Mr. Weinberger said.

Had the plan worked, it would have been useful for peace in the Gulf region, he said at the end of a 24-hour visit to Morocco during which he met King Hassan.

Moroccan Foreign Minister Abdul Latif Filali said Friday night that Morocco, one of the Arab states backing Iraq in its war against Iran, had been surprised

by the arms sales to Tehran.

But he seemed to endorse Mr. Reagan's action by saying:

"If you don't take a risk you can't achieve anything positive."

Mr. Weinberger said the Reagan administration would seek extra security assistance for Morocco in the next American budget.

U.S. military aid to Morocco was \$36 million in the 1986 fiscal year ending last September after peaking at \$101 million in 1983.

The highest U.S. official to visit Morocco more than two years ago, Mr. Weinberger praised King Hassan's courage in abrogating a two-year-old union treaty with Libya and receiving Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres last summer.

He said the United States was looking at ways of stepping up military assistance to Morocco through joint manoeuvres and

help in modernising military equipment.

The biggest U.S.-Moroccan manoeuvres to date took place last month when about 10,000 men from the two countries joined in an exercise in southern Morocco, military sources said.

Mr. Weinberger said extra assistance in 1987 could come in the form of reduced interest rates on existing U.S. loans to buy U.S. weapons.

Another way of alleviating Morocco's economic problems would be for U.S. forces in Europe and Morocco to buy more Moroccan products such as vegetables and textiles, Mr. Weinberger said.

Mr. Weinberger approved in principle the sale of F-16 fighters to Morocco.

"I have no problem with the provision of F-16s as they are necessary for Morocco," he said.

"The case has been made for the usefulness of F-16s. It's a matter for the Congress which allocates funds," he said, adding that Morocco still had to make a final decision on whether to buy the jets.



Caspar Weinberger

In Algiers, Polisario guerrillas fighting Morocco for the independence of the Western Sahara Saturday voiced their concern over what they called the intensification of military relations between Washington and Rabat, Algeria's official APS news agency reported.

It said the relations gave comfort to Morocco in its "war of aggression against the Saharan people."

Mr. Weinberger said he found the situation in the Western Sahara, seen from the Moroccan side, as less tense than a few years ago.

"The situation seems to have stabilised in Morocco's favour," he said.

Rajavi praises U.N. condemnation of Iran

PARIS (Agencies) — Following the condemnation of Iran by the United Nations General Assembly, Mr. Massoud Rajavi, the leader of the Iranian resistance, addressed a message to the Iranian people congratulating them on this major victory, press release issued here by the People's Mojahadeen of Iran said.

"Once again, it has been proven that the suppressive and warmongering Khomeini regime is illegitimate in the eyes of all nations, and governments of the world. This great victory of the Iranian people's resistance confirms more than ever before the certain fall in the near future of Khomeini's religious dictatorship which is hated by the entire world," the statement said.

According to the press release Mr. Rajavi again urged all peace and freedom-loving nations and governments of the world to boycott all arms sales to and oil purchases from the regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in order to prevent Khomeini from further continuing his medieval killings and warmongering.

The release quoted Mr. Rajavi as saying: "The Iranian people are passing through one of the darkest periods of their history and are resisting the Khomeini regime with all their strength. Khomeini is doomed to fall and, now that his regime's nature has become clear to the entire world, any rapprochement with or aid for him will have no effect, bringing only disgrace. The Iranian people shall never forget those who were their friends during this period."

The United Nations General Assembly expressed deep concern over specific allegations of human rights violations in Iran and urged the government to respect and ensure the rights guaranteed in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

The resolution was passed with 61 in favour, 32 against and 42 abstentions.

While the special rapporteur on Iran, Galindo Pohl, has not had time since his appointment to submit a comprehensive report, he has made a "good start toward such a report," U.S. Ambassador

Patricia Byrne said. "Iran's refusal to cooperate with the rapporteur shows that our concern over human rights there is justified."

The General Assembly again expressed its deep concern that the Afghan regime, with heavy support from Soviet troops, is committing widespread human rights violations.

In a resolution passed on Dec. 4, the world body singled out the human rights situation in Afghanistan for the second year in row and decided to continue its investigation next year.

The resolution mustered more support this year with a vote of 89 to 24 with 36 abstentions. Last year's vote was 80 to 22 with 40 abstentions.

The assembly's action on Afghanistan was the result of a report by Felix Ermacora, the special rapporteur of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights. In the report he said that threatening new elements have been introduced into a situation that has already been described as a brutal, gross disregard for human rights.



Massoud Rajavi

Mr. Ermacora said that "the situation of human rights in Afghanistan continues to be a source of the deepest concern" because of the seriousness of the suffering and the magnitude of the economic, social and cultural problems. He cited intensified actions against opposition movements and civilians inside Afghanistan in the past year and an increase in the number.

4,230 party cadres died during Aden clashes

ADEN, South Yemen (AP) — The government Saturday said 4,230 members of the ruling Socialist Party were killed in 12 days of fighting that ended with the ouster of President Ali Nasser Mohammad.

Cost of damage to public property as a result of January's fighting, waged with artillery, tanks and aircraft, was put at \$9.6 million dinars (\$115 million).

They were the first official figures to be made public on casualties and damage in the bloody conflict which brought the government of President Heider Al Attas to power.

The death toll did not include the number of civilians who also lost their lives in the fighting between the rival factions of the

ruling party in the only Marxist country that calls itself Marxist in the Arab World.

Diplomatic sources have said the total casualty figure was around 10,000. House-to-house fighting took place during the January fighting.

The official figures about the party "cadres" casualties, published in the Yemeni media Saturday, were based on statements by the public prosecutor at the trial of Mr. Nasser Mohammad and his top aides.

The supreme court on Dec. 2 began the trial of Mr. Nasser Mohammad and 141 of his top aides on charges of high treason, with the prosecutor charging the ousted leader with triggering the

civil war that erupted on Jan. 13.

Mr. Saleh Mohammad and 47 of his aides are being tried in absentia, while 94 defendants are present at the hearings. The former president and thousands of his supporters fled the country when the faction currently ruling gained the upper hand in the fighting.

Those in the docks include the former commanders of the air force and air defence, the deputy commander of the paramilitary militia, and the deputy interior minister.

Aden's security forces are meanwhile investigating a "sabotage network" they said they cracked recently and connected to the former president.

Montazeri's office reportedly leaked U.S. arms deal

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — The man who broke the story of American arms sales to Iran says it was leaked by the office of Ayatollah Hussein Ali Montazeri, designated heir to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Hassan Sabra, 38, publisher and editor of the Lebanese weekly Ash Shira'a, said he wasn't sure of his scoop when he ran it in his tiny magazine.

Mr. Sabra's report, which hit newstands on Nov. 4, was the first tipoff of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's secret overtures to Iran in a bid to improve relations with Tehran and help with release of American hostages held by Shi'ite extremists in Lebanon.

It also was the first revelation that Mr. Reagan's former national security adviser, Robert McFarlane, had made secret trips to Tehran to negotiate with Iranian government officials.

Mr. Sabra, in an interview conducted Thursday, readily admitted the report was deliberately leaked to him by Mr. Montazeri's office.

Sources in Iran have said Mr. Montazeri was angry that officials led by Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani made contacts with the United States without informing him first.

Speaking in his office on the third floor of Ash Shira'a's seven-story building in west Beirut's Mousseibeh district, Mr. Sabra said two Iranian emissaries flew in to see him in October.

Ash Shira'a was chosen because of my personal links with the Montazeris," Mr. Sabra said.

Arms deal 'substantially improved' Iran's capability

By David B. Ottaway

WASHINGTON — The United States and Israel provided Iran with \$500 million to \$1 billion worth of arms over the past two years and improved the Iranian military capability "very substantially," the Carter administration's top Iran specialist has said.

Calling this a "reasonable estimate" based on press reports and his own calculations, Gary Sick, now a Ford Foundation programme officer, told an American Enterprise Institute audience he believed a total of 5,000 to 5,500 tons of military equipment, including nine to 12 shipments from Israel, had gone to Iran and that "much of it" came from the United States.

Mr. Sick said the deliveries had "made a difference" in the balance of forces between warring Iran and Iraq and would give Tehran "an edge" in its next offensive. But it was "not at all clear it will make a decisive difference," he added.

More damaging, Mr. Sick said, was the "psychological effect" of

U.S. arms going to Iran, giving the impression that one superpower had changed sides in the war in expectation of an Iranian victory. This, he said, could encourage other Western countries to provide more arms to Iran, thus providing "a new impetus" to forces seeking "to dump" the present Iraqi government. The removal of President Saddam Hussein has been one of the main Iranian conditions for ending the war.

Mr. Sick said he found the administration's statement that the value of U.S. arms shipped to Iran was \$12 million to be "a very low estimate."

The ex-official suggested that this was "not a chance number," noting that laws require the administration to report any sales of \$14 million or more to Congress for its approval.

Mr. Sick, National Security Council deputy in charge of Iran during the Carter administration, had responsibility for dealing with the 1979-81 crisis over the 52 American hostages held in Tehran — The Washington Post.

Vanunu reportedly kidnapped between London and Paris

LONDON (R) — An Israeli now charged with passing information about his country's nuclear secrets to a British newspaper was kidnapped by Mossad intelligence agents while travelling between London and Paris, the Financial Times said Saturday.

In a report from Israel, the paper cited intelligence sources as saying Mordechai Vanunu was abducted by the Israeli intelligence service between the two European capitals and then brought back to Israel aboard an Israeli airliner from Paris on Oct. 2.

The report said the abduction

occurred some 48 hours after Vanunu left London where he had told the Sunday Times that Israel produced nuclear weapons at its Dimona reactor.

The Financial Times did not say by what form of transport Vanunu was travelling at the time of his abduction, described as personally ordered by then Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Vanunu, since charged with espionage, helping the enemy in war and divulging state secrets, was drugged and taken onto the El Al flight at the last moment to avoid arousing the suspicions of other passengers, the paper said.

U.S. to prosecute people who sell arms to Iran

NEW YORK (AP) — The United States will continue to prosecute people who sell American-made arms to Iran, despite disclosures of the U.S. government's own arms sales to Iran, a prosecutor has told a federal appeals court.

"It is the position of the government that when private individuals seek to sell arms to Iran it is against the policy of the Department of State and the government of the United States, and we will continue to be prosecuting," said Assistant U.S. Attorney Kathleen Mehlreiter.

She appeared in the case of an Austrian convicted in Buffalo, New York, in March of conspiring to sell U.S.-made helicopter gunships to Iran. After speaking with Department of Justice officials, she said, "my understanding is that we will continue to prosecute individuals in cases of this nature."

But Mark Mahoney, lawyer for the Austrian, Heinz Golitschek, argued that the government misled the jury that convicted Golitschek by presenting testimony that it was against U.S. policy to allow arms shipments to Iran.

"On the question of what the U.S. foreign policy was, if we knew then what we know now, that wouldn't be accepted as a true position," Mr. Mahoney told the three-judge appeals panel during a 45-minute hearing.

President Ronald Reagan revealed last month that the United States had shipped weapons to Iran — despite a U.S. embargo on such shipments — in what he called an effort to help moderate gain power there.

U.S. general, Iranian Jew played big part in arms deal

By David Rogers and Edward T. Pound

WASHINGTON — Communications intercepted by the National Security Agency show that former Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard Secord and his business partner, Albert Hakim, played important roles behind the sales of U.S. arms to Iran and the diversion of funds to Nicaraguan insurgents, intelligence sources said.

"Hakim and Secord are major actors within this thing," said one source familiar with the intercepts, which complement a paper trail of banking and corporate ties running from the U.S. to Switzerland and then back through Bermuda to Central America.

The National Security Agency is a government agency responsible for intercepting world-wide communications.

The role played by Maj. Gen. Secord and Mr. Hakim is attracting increased attention as investigators try to unravel the administration's complex and secret Iran-Nicaragua dealings. So far, the exact amount of money involved, and how it was diverted, remains unclear. But investigators believe the two men are part of a network of private individuals tapped by Marine Lt. Col. Oliver North, a former National Security Council aide, to carry out the secret policies.

Maj. Gen. Secord's military and intelligence background is matched by Mr. Hakim's long record of business dealings in the Middle East and Switzerland. And Iranian born Jew, Mr. Hakim is described by one former law enforcement official as having "strong Israeli military-type ties. Both men have declined to comment on their involvement — The Wall Street Journal.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19	21:55 — News Summary 22:00 — Evening Show Cont. 23:00 — News Summary 23:57 — News Headline 24:00 — Close down
PROGRAMME ONE	15:30 — Koran 15:50 — Programme review 15:55 — Health Cliff 16:20 — Children programme 16:45 — Young World 17:10 — Saba 17:40 — Computer 18:10 — Local Agricultural programme 18:30 — Arabic series 19:25 — Local programme 19:50 — Programme review 20:00 — News in Arabic 20:30 — Arabic series 21:05 — Live programme 21:55 — Tomorrow's programme 22:00 — Local variety programme 23:00 — News summary in Arabic 23:15 — Close down
PROGRAMME TWO	18:00 — Le Village dans les nuages 18:30 — Catherine 19:00 — News in French 19:15 — The Story of S.O.S. 19:30 — News in Hebrew 19:45 — Varieties 20:00 — News in Arabic 20:30 — Sorry (Comedy) 21:10 — The Story of S.O.S. 22:00 — News in English 22:30 — Magazine
RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz AM & 90 MHz FM & partly on 4560 KHz SW Tel: 774111-19	07:00 — Light Music 07:30 — Newsday 08:00 — Morning Show 08:30 — News Summary 09:05 — Pop Session 11:00 — In Concert 12:00 — News Summary 12:45 — Pop Session Cont. 13:00 — News Summary 13:15 — Pop Session Cont. 14:00 — News Bulletin 14:10 — Instrumentals 14:15 — Science Report 15:00 — Concert Hour 16:00 — News Summary 16:05 — Instrumentals 16:30 — Old Favorites 17:00 — Listener's Choice 18:00 — News Summary 18:05 — Jazz Hour 19:00 — Newsday 19:30 — Date with a Star 20:00 — Evening Show 21:00 — News Summary 21:05 — Evening Show Cont.

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	EXHIBITIONS
* Art exhibition by Egyptian artist Hassan Jada at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Dec. 13).	* West German book and photo exhibition at Yarmouk University in Irbid (until Dec. 10).
CINEMA WEEK	* French cinema week at Yarmouk University in Irbid (until Dec. 9).
PLAY	* A play in English entitled "Oh What a Lovely War" by the Royal Theatre Club daily at 8:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Dec. 11).
CULTURAL CENTRES	Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267 American Cultural Centre Tel. 644371 British Council Tel. 641520 French Cultural Centre Tel. 637009 Goethe Institute Tel. 641993 Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 644205 Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 624049 Turkish Cultural Centre Tel. 639777 Hayat Centre Tel. 665195 Hassan Youth City Tel. 6671816 Y.W.C.A. Tel. 641795 Aman Municipal Library Tel. 637111 University of Jordan Library Tel. 843555
CHURCHES	St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Amman, Tel. 624590. Jabbal Amman, Tel. 661757. Catholic Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Lureidheh, Tel. 637440. De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Hussein, Tel. 661757. Terrence Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Lureidheh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m., Tel. 622566. Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Jabbal, Tel. 623541. Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabbal Amman, Tel. 678906. Assiuta Catholic Church Assiuta, Tel. 771331. Armenian Orthodox Church Assiuta, Tel. 775261. St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Assiuta, Tel. 771751. Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsi, Tel. 651754. Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabbal Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Smir), Tel. 811295. Balaiah Congregation (International, Interdenominational) meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabbal Amman, Tel. 606974.
MUSEUMS	Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760. Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabbal Al Qal'a (Cade), The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760. Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabbal Al Qal'a (Cade), The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.
PRAYER TIMES	04:56 — Fair 06:24 — (Sunrise) Daba 11:27 — Daba 14:13 — Daba 16:30 — Maghreb 17:58 — Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	OTHER FLIGHTS
This information is supplied by Alia International Airport, tel. 08300-5, where it should always be verified.	09:25 — Bucharest (RO) 09:30 — Larnaca, Amman (CY) 09:40 — Damascus, Paris (AF) 09:50 — Beirut (ME) 10:15 — Damascus, Rome (AZ) 10:20 — Larnaca, Beirut (CP) 11:25 — Athens (SV) 12:20 — Tripoli (LN) 12:30 — Baghdad (IA) 14:00 — Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF) 15:00 — Kuwait (KU) 15:00 — Dubai (EK) 19:30 — Jeddah (SV) 22:25 — Baghdad, London (BA)
ARRIVALS: ALIA FLIGHTS	MARITIME TRAFFIC
09:00 — Aqaba (RJ) 09:00 — Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ) 09:25 — Jeddah (SV) 10:00 — Kuwait (RJ) 10:05 — Doha, Bahrain (RJ) 16:30 — Cairo, Aqaba (RJ) 17:20 — New York, Amsterdam (RJ) 17:40 — Madrid, Rome (RJ) 18:05 — Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)	Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port: — Fina Line — Atlantic Dredge — Al Shamah
OTHER FLIGHTS	MONEY EXCHANGE
02:25 — Bucharest (RO) 09:25 — Berlin, Larnaca (IF) 10:30 — Jeddah (SV) 11:30 — Cairo (MS) 11:45 — Kuwait (JV) 12:30 — Baghdad (IA) 12:50 — Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF) 13:45 — Kuwait (KU) 14:00 — Dubai (EK) 17:45 — Athens, Damascus (OA) 18:25 — Athens (SV) 19:10 — Frankfurt (LF) 21:20 — Istanbul (TK) 21:30 — London (BA)	Saturday rates Local sell-off rates in ffs Belgian franc — 82.4/ 85.6 Dutch guilder — 151.5/ 153 Austrian franc — 52.2/ 52.8 Danish lire — 24.7/ 25 Japanese yen (for 100) — 210.9/ 213.5 Swiss franc — 49.7/ 50.1 U.S. dollar — 204.8/ 207 U.K. sterling pound — 488.7/ 494.1 W. German mark — 343.9/ 346.5 171/ 172.7
DEPARTURES: ALIA FLIGHTS	WEATHER
06:45 — Aqaba (RJ) 10:30 — Tunis, Casablanca (RJ) 11:30 — Athens (RJ) 11:30 — Cairo (RJ) 20:45 — Kuwait, Abu Dhabi (RJ) 21:00 — Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ) 21:00 — Baghdad (RJ) 21:00 — Jeddah (RJ) 21:15 — Damascus (RJ) 21:25 — Cairo (RJ) 22:00 — Dubai, Muscat (RJ) 22:00 — Bangkok (RJ)	It will be fair. Light and variable winds will become southeasterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm calm.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES	NIGHT DUTY
Amman governorate — 891228 Amman civil defence — 198, 199 Civil Defence Irbid — 271293, 273131 Civil Defence Qamishli — 770733 Civil Defence Qadisiyah — 57326 Ambulance — 193, 775111 Amman downtown fire brigade — 198 First aid — 630341 Police — 774303 Civil Defence rescue — 661111 Fire headquarters — 622090-3 Police headquarters — 639141 Traffic police — 636381/4, 624881 Electric Power Co. — 636381/4, 624881 Municipal water complaints — 771258 Queen Alia Int. Airport — 6333060	AMMAN: Dr. Abdul Qader Al Lala — 896046 Dr. Khaled Abdo — 795392 Nawfal pharmacy — 626272 Salam pharmacy — 636730 Sahel pharmacy — 668056 First pharmacy — 661912 Hannawi pharmacy — 845376 Khalid pharmacy — 778653 TAKIS: Al Ahmari taxi — 663911 Steinert taxi — 665204 Asma taxi — 844503 Medina taxi — 664571 Khalid taxi — 841577 Al Amir taxi — 771051 Al Taj taxi — 774191 IRBID: Dr. Mohammed Al Shara' — 2736801 Ubaidin pharmacy — (-) ZARQA: Dr. Tarek Hijawi — 986443 Al Adham pharmacy — (-)
HOSPITALS	GENERAL
Hussein Medical Centre — 813812/32 Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. — 642816 Akliyah Maternity, J. Amman — 642412 Jabbal Amman Maternity — 642362 Mafraq, J. Amman — 636140 Palestine, Zarqa — 641714 Shamsi Hospital — 669131 University Hospital — 845845/65 Al-Muhammar Hospital — 6672279 The Islamic, Amman — 6641757 Al-Ahli, Amman — 6641642 Italian, Al-Muhammar — 7771013 Al-Bashir, J. Amman — 7751126 Army, Madaba — 891611/15 Queen Alia Hospital — 602240/58 Amal Hospital — 674155	Jordan Television — 773111/19 Radio Jordan — 774111/19 Ministry of Tourism — 642311 Hotel complaints — 660412 Price complaints — 661178 Telephone Information — 12 Jordan and Middle East calls — 10 Overseas calls — 17 Repair service — 11
MARKET PRICES	
Upperline price in ffs per kg. Apple (double red and starken) — 280/240 Apple (golden) — 280/240 Apple (green) — 380/300 Banana (Malabar) — 300/260 Banana (Malabar) — 250/220 Beans — 300/260 Beetroot — 130/100 Cabbage — 150/100 Carrot (black) — 170/130 Carrot (yellow) — 150/120 Cauliflower — 220/160 Chestnut — 600/550 Cucumber — 430/360 Eggplant (small) — 230/180 Eggplant (large) — 140/100 Garlic — 600/520 Grapefruit — 100/70	Leimon — 110/80 Mango — 120/100 Mallow — 200/240 Mint — 200/150 Onion (dry) — 170/130 Onion (green) — 140/110 Olive (Shamouni) — 300/260 Orange (Ala Surra) — 280/220 Orange (Shamouni) — 280/220 Pepper (sweet) — 300/230 Pepper (hot) — 300/230 Potatoes (local) — 280/220 Potatoes (imported) — 280/220 Radishes — 280/220 Sage — 280/220 Spinach — 280/220 Tomatoes — 280/220 Turnip — 120/80

Sudanese leader expresses thanks to King, Prince Hassan for their efforts and support

AMMAN (Petra) — The leader of the Sudanese Unionist Democratic Party, Mr. Mohammed Al Mirghani, has expressed his country's gratitude to His Majesty King Hussein for his continued efforts to unify Arab ranks and to bring about solidarity among Arab states in general and between Jordan and Sudan in particular.

He also voiced his country's appreciation to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan for his continued support and assistance to Sudan to help the country overcome its present difficult conditions resulting from famine and drought.

Mr. Mirghani was speaking at a meeting with Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmed Al Lawzi. The Sudanese leader said that Jordan is the key to the Palestine problem in any solution with the Israeli enemy.

Mr. Mirghani called on Arab countries to unify their ranks and to forego their differences for the sake of working together in regaining their usurped territories. He also appealed to Arab states to give more attention to the issue of southern Sudan and requested them to help find a solution to the on-going rebellion there.

For his part, Mr. Lawzi praised Sudan's role in promoting solidarity among Arab states. He also outlined Jordan's policies with regard to the Palestine

question and its role in supporting the steadfastness of the Palestinian people living under Israeli occupation. Mr. Lawzi also spoke about Jordan's continued support for Iraq in its war against Iran.

The meeting was attended by several House members who held discussions with Mr. Mirghani and his accompanying delegation.

Mr. Mirghani arrived in Amman on Saturday morning for a visit to Jordan at the invitation of Prince Hassan. During the five-day visit, Mr. Mirghani will hold talks with senior officials and will tour cultural, scientific and tourist sites in Jordan.

In a statement upon arrival, Mr. Mirghani praised Jordanian-Sudanese relations and said his visit was aimed at bolstering ties of cooperation and friendship between the two countries. Referring to the situation in Sudan, Mr. Mirghani described it as "stable" and added that the Sudanese economy is developing gradually.

Mr. Mirghani is accompanied by the Sudanese health minister and a number of senior party officials.

The delegation was greeted by senior officials including Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat, Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh and Chief Islamic Justice Mohammad Mheilan.

Crown Prince and prime minister receive Egyptian energy minister

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, conferred at the Royal Court on Saturday with visiting Egyptian Minister of Energy and Electricity Maher Abaza. During the meeting they discussed aspects of cooperation between Egypt and Jordan in energy affairs and reviewed the prospect of linking the national grids of Jordan and Egypt. The meeting was attended by Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib and Egypt's ambassador to Jordan Ihab Wahbeh.

Mr. Abaza, who is accompanied by an official delegation, was also received by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai in the presence of Dr. Khatib and the Egyptian ambassador. They discussed bilateral cooperation in energy related affairs.

The Egyptian minister, who arrived in Amman on Thursday for a five-day visit to Jordan, is expected to hold talks with Dr. Khatib and other officials on the implementation of agreements concluded by the Higher Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Committee concerning energy. He is also expected to conclude a protocol on technical cooperation between the two countries in solar energy and electricity generation.

The meetings will also include discussions on an exchange of expertise in energy matters between Egypt and Jordan and a review of energy cooperation



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Saturday holds talks with visiting Egyptian Minister of Energy and Electricity Maher Abaza (above). The minister was also received by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai (below). — Petra photos

plans drawn up by technicians from both sides. The Egyptian minister and his delegation also visited the Jordan Electricity

Authority accompanied by Dr. Khatib. They are expected to tour electricity plants and installations in other parts of the country.

Jerusalem Open University presents its proposals to Arab scholars

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A three-day seminar on extension education and open universities in the Arab World opened here on Saturday.

The seminar, which was opened by Minister of Planning Taher Khamas, and organized jointly by Al Quds (Jerusalem) Open University (QOU) and the Arab Thought Forum (ATF), is expected to discuss a number of papers presented by scholars from various Arab countries and institutions including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

The idea of the open university was initiated in 1975 after the Palestine National Congress requested UNESCO to carry out a feasibility study on the project. The original study, funded by the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development, was completed by UNESCO in 1980.

The project was initially geared to Palestinians living under Israeli occupation but was later expanded to cater for the whole of the Arab World. The aim of the project is to provide further education for people who, because of work or other circumstances, can not enroll at full-time students.

The university's curriculum includes technology and applied

sciences, home and family development, agriculture and rural development, business administration, and education. In addition, core curricula includes national awareness, Arabic and Islamic culture, general knowledge, and Arabic and English languages.

The aims of the seminar, according to the president of the QOU, Dr. Walid Kamhawi, are to explain the concept of extension education and open learning to the public in general, and to decision makers in particular, and to create dialogue among scholars participating in the seminar to formulate concrete concepts about the university. "The third aim is to build up a consensus amongst all the concerned parties that the Arab Nation needs an open university and that the QOU could serve as a pan-Arab university simply because of its being the first of its kind in the Arab World," Dr. Kamhawi told the Jordan Times.

Studies continuing

Dr. Kamhawi said that the QOU project is still under study by international experts in the field of open learning. "The aims (of an open university) are to give people the opportunity to learn by themselves and to depend on their learning abilities to improve their knowledge," he said, adding that this will enable people to obtain

higher education while earning a living wherever they are.

Dr. Kamhawi added that if financial resources and logistics were available, the university would be able to reach and teach approximately 60,000 students by 1991. The open university, which is to go in effect in Oct. 1988, will award its students diplomas, and degrees in their fields of specialisation. In the meantime, printed material, audio-visual aids, home-kits, workshops, and laboratories are being prepared. However, the university will also be using the services of established higher education institutions, according to Dr. Kamhawi.

He said that tuition fees for the open university will be lower than regular universities, and that scholarships and soft loans will be arranged for those who need them.

Papers

Papers presented during the first day included: The open university system and the Arab Nation, presented by Dr. Ali Othman; The role of distance teaching in the democracy of education, presented by Dr. Tayseer Abdul Jabbar and Freedom of learning within the Arabic and Islamic culture, presented by Dr. Hassan Momani. During today's and tomorrow's sessions five more papers are expected to be reviewed.

Queen Noor graduates first trainees from Jerash Handicraft Centre

JERASH (Petra) — The first batch of trainees graduated from the Jerash Handicraft Centre on Saturday during a ceremony held under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor.

The Queen distributed certificates to 79 women who completed their training in the centre's weaving, knitting, sewing, embroidery and carpentry courses. These courses train women in crafts and income-generating skills to help them support their families.

Queen Noor later toured the centre which is run by the Jerash Women's Society and discussed the prospect of marketing the centre's different products. Queen Noor said that the Noor Al Hussein Foundation would support the centre's efforts.

This was followed by the Queen's visit to the Chirchassian Benevolent Society in Jerash where she inaugurated an art and heritage exhibition and met with



Her Majesty Queen Noor on Saturday presents certificates to the first batch of trainees who have completed courses run by the Jerash Handicraft Centre (Petra photo).

the society's executive committee members. Queen Noor also visited the site of the Jerash sports city project. The Queen was accompanied on the tour by the wife of the

15 deputies demand special House session

(Continued from page 1)

sociology at the Jordan University.

"I demand a special meeting to discuss the official information policy, a session where cooperation and brotherhood should prevail during the discussions," he said.

Deputy Odellah said: "We blame the government since it lacked out our meeting's decisions and nothing was reached on television."

Speaker Fayez made three attempts to close the discussion and referred to Mr. Athem's remarks charging that, in accordance with Article 87, "any question made by any deputy should not be transformed into an interruption during the session."

Mr. Fayez suggested that a special meeting would be held if a number of deputies signed their names on a paper and presented it to the House calling for a special session.

During Saturday's meeting, a number of deputies referred to a verbal clash that broke out between Mr. Khatib and Deputy Shbeilat at the end of the Nov. 23 session. The verbal clash, which took place outside the Parliament floor, was a disagreement between both men over what should and what should not be made public by the media regarding the session's deliberations and the decisions adopted by the House.

Returning to the clash, Mr. Athem said that "we in Jordan have patriotic and responsible journalists who have developed their own measures of self-censorship."

"These journalists do not need censorship by the minister," he added.

Mr. Athem recommended that a special session be held to discuss the issue.

"The government and the legislators should not sit together to study the privileges and duties of the local media to reach a joint consensus on what should and what should not be published and broadcast," so that citizens could enjoy a normal life "far away from any intellectual oppression, which I believe, the prime minister

himself does not approve of or adopt," Mr. Athem said.

Ideas included in Mr. Athem's comments were almost identical to views expressed in a letter Mr. Shbeilat circulated among the House members in the aftermath of his verbal clash with Mr. Khatib.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, commenting on Mr. Athem's statements, expressed hope that the deputies would agree with his view that what happened between Mr. Khatib and Deputy Shbeilat did not surpass the limits of "a personal and verbal row," that took place outside the Parliament floor.

Mr. Rifai, who was accompanying His Majesty King Hussein on an official visit to Egypt at the time of the Nov. 23 session, said he was informed about the dispute and that he read the "personal letter which was sent by Mr. Shbeilat to the deputies."

He described Mr. Shbeilat's letter as "unofficial" and "personal" since it was not distributed in accordance with the House's internal charter and hence was not included on the session's official agenda.

Mr. Rifai said Mr. Shbeilat's letter presented a one-sided aspect of the issue and that despite the verbal exchanges between Mr. Khatib and Mr. Shbeilat "I hope to make it clear that the dignity of any deputy is part of the dignity of the House. And the dignity of any minister is part of Parliament's dignity since it represents the dignity of the country's total institutions."

Mr. Rifai said that attempts to merely register positions and outbidding each other "do not serve the public welfare and do not lead anywhere."

"We do not need lessons in information media, on nationalism nor on taking stands against the Zionist enemy," Mr. Rifai said in his speech to the session.

A number of comments on whether the Khatib-Shbeilat clash should be counted as a "personal clash" or an "official dispute," and whether or not Mr. Shbeilat's letter should be seen as official

and included in the House's records or should be crossed out, preceded and followed Mr. Rifai's comments.

Salman Al Qudah charged that the criticisms levelled at the minister of information as included in Mr. Athem's speech "were a bit wrong."

Deputy Thouqan Hussein suggested to remove Mr. Athem's speech from the meeting's records and said that what happened between the minister and Deputy Shbeilat took place outside the Parliament floor.

Deputy Odellah expressed the House's regret over the incident and described it as a "disagreement in views."

"I call on both men to consider the row as over and I urge the House to close the debate," Mr. Odellah said.

Mr. Haj Abdullah, however, did not believe that what broke out between the two men was a "personal discussion," and said the incident took place between a minister and a deputy.

He urged Mr. Rifai and his colleagues to form a special committee to probe into the row and take decisions in accordance with the final outcome. "If a committee is formed, then we will be able to preserve our dignity and will be sure that similar incidents would never repeat themselves," he said.

Dr. Touameh said he viewed the dispute as a "contradiction in their viewpoints" and not from a moral perspective. "I would like to tackle the issue from the principle of the relationship between the official media stand on our decisions and the House's right to draft its own decisions," he said.

Mr. Fayez adjourned the session with Deputy Athem reassuring the House that his statement was not directed against anybody. "The problem centres on the principle of whether the information institution has the right to ask local media representatives to either publish or report or not to do so regarding our sessions," he said. "We only demand intellectual freedom inside the House," he added.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Assad returns from Pakistan

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Higher Education Nassereddine Al Assad has returned to Amman at the end of an official visit to Pakistan. He said that he conveyed greetings to Pakistani President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq from His Majesty King Hussein and was carrying similar greetings to the King and wishes for further bolstering of relations between Pakistan and Jordan. Dr. Assad said that during his visit he toured higher educational institutions in Pakistan and examined their systems.

King honours Italian Hospital director

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has conferred the Independence Medal of the First Order on Dr. Anrico Marchis, director of the Italian Hospital in Amman in recognition of his 30 years of work in Jordan as director of the hospital. Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh presented the medal to Dr. Marchis during a ceremony held on Saturday at the Health Ministry. Established in 1927, the Italian Hospital was one of the first hospitals in Amman and it played a leading role in medical and humanitarian services in Jordan. Dr. Marchis has been working at the hospital since 1953. The ceremony was attended by health ministry officials, president of the Jordan Doctors Association Hassan Khreis, Italian Ambassador in Amman Luigi Amaduzzi and officials from the Italian Hospital.

Hmoud reviews agri-marketing issues

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Marwan Al Hmoud and Director General of the Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company of Jordan (AMPCO) Ghazi Abu Hassan on Saturday discussed issues related to marketing Jordanian fruits and vegetables both locally and abroad. The company has started signing contracts with a number of farmers to plant a variety of vegetables for export to European Community (EC) countries. The company earlier contacted EC countries which expressed their agreement to import certain vegetables grown in Jordan.

Agriculture official leaves for Italy

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Agriculture Under Secretary Salem Al Lawzi will leave for Italy today to take part in the meetings of the council of governors of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), which will be held in the Italian capital, Rome, between Dec. 9 and 13.

Symposium on pastures to start Monday

AMMAN (Petra) — A specialised symposium on pastures will open here on Monday to discuss a strategy for a projected regional pastures project to be set up in the Hammad Basin on the common border of Jordan, Iraq and Syria. The project's steering committees as well as representatives from the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) will attend the seminar. The \$2.6 million project will be financed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and will last for three years. The project is aimed at drawing up a strategy for pastures in each of the countries as well as conducting various researches to develop pastures in these countries. A Tunisia-based FAO regional committee will run the project.

Majali receives Seville University president

AMMAN (Petra) — University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali on Saturday received the president of the Spanish University of Seville and an accompanying delegation. Dr. Majali briefed the guest delegation on the development of the education sector in Jordan and outlined the achievements made in this sector. The guest delegation expressed his hope that bilateral relations will be established between the two universities, especially in the educational and cultural fields. Dr. Majali presented the university's shield to the head and members of the Spanish delegation.

Islamic society to hold cultural week

AMMAN (Petra) — The Islamic charitable society will hold its third cultural week at the Royal Cultural Centre between Dec. 15 and Dec. 24 under the patronage of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai. A society spokesman said that the cultural week, to be held under the slogan "Palestine ... history and culture," will include a seminar on the role of the Hashemite family in modern Arab history and another on the steadfastness of the Arab people in the occupied territories. The cultural week will also include a national book exhibition and a wing to display embroidery, ceramic works and posters of Jerusalem.

EC, Arab experts begin training seminar on energy planning policies

By Monika Warich
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — There are three main objectives behind energy planning in Jordan, the first being to minimise the consumption of natural energy resources, to save them as well as to reduce expenses in view of the fact that Jordan imports most of its energy requirements in the form of oil. Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib said on Saturday.

He went on to say that the second aim is self-sufficiency in energy production as far as is possible and the third is working towards long-term solutions in the field of energy planning. The minister outlined these objectives in his opening speech to a seminar on energy planning for the Middle East which began on Saturday in Amman. The six-day international training seminar is sponsored by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources and the Commission of the European Community (EC).

Dr. Khatib said that Jordan's strategic and geographical situation helps the Kingdom to play an important role in energy planning in the region. The seminar has met with overwhelming interest, he continued, as 14 Arab countries and most Arab organisations involved in energy planning are participating. He thanked the European Community for supporting the seminar and for its continuing assistance to the ministry.

The minister also stressed the importance of a proper pricing policy. The price for energy in Jordan, he admitted, was fairly high, as it is considered a scarce resource, which should be priced realistically. Despite falling oil prices, in the interest of the whole economy, the price level for energy was largely maintained, he said. This point was also highlighted by the Director for Energy Policy at the EC commission Clive Jones in his address to the seminar and by Dr. Romano Lantini, head of the delegation of the Commission of the European Communities in Jordan. Mr. Jones warned that falling oil prices could and already had weakened market forces in many countries which have encouraged efficient energy policies.

Dr. Lantini stressed the necessity for a change in policies under the impact of a decrease in energy consumption in industrialised countries and a parallel slump of oil prices, while noting that at the same time a number of countries are generating a considerable percentage of their energy requirements using nuclear power, alternative energies and energy saving measures. The answer to the rapidly changing situation in the energy sector, for both the oil producing and the oil importing countries, is planning, he said. He also warned that lower oil prices should not divert the oil importing countries' attention from the development of alternative energies and energy saving policies.

Energy in Jordan

Jordan's most important energy source, in the absence of natural

energy resources, is the efficient and economic use of imported energies. Solar power for pumping and heating water and wind energy to generate electricity come second. Today, already 10 per cent of Jordanian homes heat their water using solar energy, according to the minister, and this figure should become 50 per cent during the next decade, he added.

In the 1970's, the demand for energy in Jordan grew drastically, at rates of up to 17 per cent each year, thus eating up a considerable share of the economy's earnings. Dr. Khatib said. Continuously decreasing since then, the growth rate of energy consumption is now less than that of the whole economy, a very welcome development, he noted. In 1985,

energy consumption grew by less than two per cent and for this year, a growth rate of about three per cent is expected. No drastic changes in the "energy scenario" are foreseen for the coming 20 to 30 years, Dr. Khatib continued. Oil, coal, gas and nuclear energy will go on playing a major role and only to a very limited extent could be replaced by alternative energies, he concluded.

Europe is not trying to develop energy plans for other countries, Mr. Jones said. The community's programmes in this sector are designed to provide assistance, training and financial help and to strengthen the South-South cooperation in energy planning, he added.

THINKING OF XMAS & NEW YEAR ???

Here is a present that is.....
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HOTEL JORDAN INTER-CONTINENTAL

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Shamir has no 'worry'

MR. YITZHAK Shamir is not worried by the killing of Arab students, at the hands of Israeli soldiers, on the Birzeit University campus, in the Palestinian refugee camp of Balata and elsewhere in the occupied territories. So he says. So his record testifies. And we have to believe him.

It is not difficult to understand the thinking and mentality of the terrorist-turned prime minister; not if we expend a few minutes studying his recent and past history.

Shamir is one of Israel's so-called old guard who, because of their suffering at the hands of Nazi Germany, still view the Jewish state as a vulnerable child surrounded by hostility.

"His resulting world view is cut to make — the Jews live in an irrevocably hostile world, and the Arabs are a perpetual enemy, not to be trusted, always to be cowed into acceptance of the Jewish state, if not actual submission to its dictates," wrote the Jerusalem Post in profiling Shamir when he succeeded Menachem Begin as prime minister in 1983. The main "never-trusted Arabs," the newspaper continued.

Little wonder then that Shamir is not worried by the murder of Palestinian youth who lived under his state's military occupation. Even less surprising is his statement to that effect which was carried by the Israeli media.

Here is a valuable lesson to learn about the Israeli prime minister and his present government. Since the days of his Stern gang, the man had lived by the sword, and he would rather die by it.

All the talk about Shamir & Co. taking any chance to make peace with the Arabs vanishes in this air. The common denominator of what these men want is the continued occupation of the Arab territories, the subjugation or expulsion of the Palestinian people who live in them and the demolition of all Arab hopes and aspirations to resist the Zionist threat at large.

Let us not delude ourselves, here in the Arab World, that Israel under Shamir and people of his ilk would ever wish to establish real and lasting peace in the area. Let us not for a moment think they will understand any language other than resistance and self-strength.

Shamir and Zionists like him may well be defined as politicians and pragmatists by the West and the rest of the world — not by us.

They are bigoted ideologues driven by baseless hatred and perpetual hostility towards the Arabs, and they are unlikely to change now or ever.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Israeli crimes and Arab duties

THE Israeli authorities in pursuit of their criminal actions against the Arab population Friday killed a 14-year-old Arab youth in the Balata refugee camp near Nablus. The killing came in the wake of other killings committed by the Israeli troops at Bir Zeit University on Thursday. The two incidents clearly display Israel's determined attempt to carry out an organised terrorist campaign against the Arab population, at a time when the Arab governments are in total disarray and lacking any form of unity in the face of Israel's crimes. The prevailing indifferent attitude of the Arab states vis-a-vis the developments in the occupied Arab territories is no less dangerous than these developments themselves. Had the Arabs been more united and had they been determined to confront their enemy, Israel would not have pursued its criminal policy against the Arab inhabitants under its rule. Waiting for salvation from the United Nations or awaiting the convening of an international conference to resolve the Middle East question can do nothing to alleviate the sufferings of the Palestinian people. The Arabs should take serious action now to deter Israel from continuing its terrorist actions against their kinsmen and their Arab brothers. It is time that the Arabs realised that they would not be safe from Israel's aggression at any time; and therefore they should know that the developments in the occupied Arab territory are no more than the first stage in a campaign aimed at imposing Israeli domination on the whole Arab region. Our national duty makes it incumbent on us to show real solidarity with and offer meaningful help to our brothers in the occupied areas.

Al Dustour: Israelis continue killings

FOR the second straight day the Zionists are continuously pressing on the trigger and killing more Arab people in the occupied Arab region. The Israelis are disregarding any call by the international community or the United Nations; and are totally ignoring all principles and laws in their dealing with the Arab inhabitants and are pursuing the killing of Arab citizens in cold blood. The killing of the Arab youth at Balata camp soon after the assassination of the Bir Zeit University students means that the Israelis are determined to carry on their criminal actions, and the statements on these developments by Israeli government officials including Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, clearly indicate that the Israeli government is determined to pursue an unprecedented criminal policy throughout the Arab territory to quell the Arab resistance and stifle the voices raised in the face of Israeli occupation forces. The bloody events in the occupied West Bank clearly reflect the uneasy life of the Israeli people and the difficulties their government is now facing, resulting from continued occupation of Arab land. The Israeli crimes now being committed against our people in the occupied West Bank underline the fact that the Zionists are determined to maintain their hold on Arab land and perpetuate their occupation and their colonisation of Arab territory. We believe in the solid steadfastness of our Arab people whom we greet with pride and with honour because they are offering sacrifice for their freedom and their liberation.

Sawt Al Shaab: Arabs face up to Israeli aggression

THE people of the occupied Arab territory are facing Israel's bullets with their naked chests and their unarmed hands. They are confronting the conspiracy and the attempt to uproot them from their land and our aborting all Zionist plans to evict them from Palestine. The killing of three university students in Bir Zeit and the Arab youth in a refugee camp near Nablus is reminiscent of Nazi atrocities committed against innocent people in Europe. The Zionists who are now committing Nazi-like crimes against defenceless people are copying Nazi techniques in intimidating the local population and forcing them to flee their homeland. The continued killing of Arab people is a proof of the on-going Israeli conspiracy aimed at Judaizing Arab territory in the absence of peace and a settlement of the Palestine problem. Israel which has killed all attempts to create peace and bring about stability and security to the Middle East is now busy implementing its plans for Judaizing Arab homeland; and in the process, it is getting rid of Arab people that try to abort its schemes. Israel has paved for its actions by directing world public attention to side conflicts that have been going on in the Middle East region. The serious developments in the occupied Arab land are a source of concern to Jordan which considers them as very dangerous and adversely affecting the prospects of peace. There can be no peace or security for any one in the whole region unless the Palestinian question is resolved in a manner that can ensure the rights of the Palestinians in their homeland and put an end to all atrocities committed against them.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

1987 budget — largest figure, lowest subsidies

THE Minister of Finance presented on Saturday to parliament the new budget for 1987. The figures of the budget should be published in today's newspapers.

Two features of the draft budget stand out. First is that the budget is the largest ever. Second is that all forms of consumption subsidies have either disappeared or been reversed, effectively, into consumption tax.

As far as the size of the budget is concerned we find that current expenditure of JD 585.2 million is four per cent higher than the corresponding figure in the 1986 budget, or one per cent over the actual expenditure of the current year.

On the other hand, capital expenditure of JD 433.5 million is 20 per cent higher than the capital expenditure of 1986 budget, but only 2 per cent over the actual capital expenditure of the current year.

If anything, this means that the public sector will continue to grow at a faster pace than the whole economy, that no austerity measures will be enforced, and that deficit financing will continue to be employed to fill the gap resulting from the economic recession thus protecting the economy from any drop in the level of aggregate

consumption, or, for that matter, from adjusting to the new reality. According to the budget, deficit financing will be in the order of JD 83 million (five per cent of GDP), calculated as follows: JD 40 million being official deficit, plus JD 144 million being developmental loans in the second chapter of the budget, less JD 101 million of principal repayments of outstanding loans, both domestic and external.

Most of the increase in expenditure will take place in the area of capital expenditure. A close look reveals that most of these costs are not of voluntary nature, such as repayment of due instalments, and what the budget calls participations and loans to public corporations and shareholding companies, which are actually subsidies to cover losses or to honour government guarantees on loans that the borrowing private companies and public corporations failed to repay. Included in the capital expenditure is also a JD 10 million allocated for the first time to the development plan of the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

Consumption subsidies which at one time burdened the budget disappeared completely without the agony of having to take difficult

decisions and without hurting the standard of living of limited income groups.

While world market prices for sugar, rice, wheat and fuel have dropped to almost half the old prices, the government continued to sell these commodities at the same old prices, and what used to be an unnecessary consumption subsidy was reversed into a much needed consumption tax.

Even bread is no more subsidised if we base our calculation on world prices of wheat. The subsidy earmarked for this purpose is no more a bread subsidy. It is rather a wheat production subsidy meant for wheat producers in Jordan's rural areas not the urban consumers in the cities.

The windfall revenue to the Treasury resulting from the accidental reversal of subsidies is roughly estimated at JD 90 million. This should help the government to eliminate any commercial borrowing.

From both the economic and national security points of view, the best way to invest the proceeds of commercial loans is to repay the loans themselves.

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

Political switches boost Turkish premier's majority

By Seva Ullman
Renter

ANKARA — Two party mergers and a round of allegiance-switching have substantially changed the political arithmetic here and boosted Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's majority in the Turkish parliament.

The Free Democratic Party (FDP) dissolved itself this week to merge with Ozal's conservative Motherland Party, although only 11 of the 20 FDP deputies actually signed up, increasing the Motherland total to 248 seats in the 400-seat assembly.

But aside from a splash of publicity, the changes mean little for Ozal's power since the main opposition Social Democratic Populist Party (SDPP) has only 79 seats.

Three SDPP members resigned on Dec. 3 to join the small Democratic Left Party (DLP) and political sources said several more will follow.

The other merger was that of the two-seat Citizens Party, formed by Ozal's ousted finance minister Vural Arikan and his sister Turkan, which voted to align with the right-wing True Path Party (TPP). The Arikans, however, decided to become independents.

The composition of parliament is now far removed from that which resulted from the November 1983 general election that brought Ozal to power after three years of military rule.

Of the three parties that took part in that poll, only the Motherland Party survives, with the others resulting from mergers or new parties signing up defectors and members of parties that closed.

The 33 independents — all originally elected on party tickets — now form the third largest group in parliament although political sources say some are planning to start yet another party.

The speed with which parties are formed and dissolved and frequent party switching stem largely from the absence of Western-style political ideologies and the fact that parties are mostly formed around individuals.

A striking example is Tefvik Gunec, a deputy from the central Anatolian province of Kirsehir, who has been a member of most of the parties in the assembly in the last three years, giving him the nickname "Jet Tefvik."

He entered parliament for the now-closed Populist Party and when it merged with the Social Democrats stayed a while there before joining the TPP — for just six or seven hours.

He had signed the entry paper late at night and in the morning withdrew his name, declaring: "I was too drunk."

After staying a while as an independent member, Gunec became one of the founders of the FDP, and this week, when it folded, joined the Motherland Party.

Spy fever grips Britain

By Colin McIntyre
Renter

LONDON — A court case in Australia has caused a major row in Britain involving the murky world of espionage, the British passion for official secrecy and charges of near-treason against the leader of the opposition.

It has led to calls for some form of parliamentary control over the intelligence services, which until now have been the preserve of the government alone.

It has increased pressure for an end to the virtually unlimited rights of British governments to suppress any information deemed to be a threat to national security and for the introduction of a freedom of information act.

It has also threatened to end the traditional bipartisan approach to security matters in Britain under which government leaders regularly brief the opposition on such questions.

However, there is no suggestion that the furore, while it has embarrassed Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government, threatens to bring her down.

At the centre of the row is an ailing 71-year-old former member of Britain's counter-espionage service M15, Peter Wright, who is trying to publish a book of memoirs in Australia, where he lives in retirement.

The main allegation in the book is that former M15 head Sir Roger Hollis, now dead, was a Soviet agent. It also claims that M15 bugged the London embassies of friendly countries and Lancaster House, the site of frequent diplomatic conferences.

Most of the allegations are not new, though it is the first time they have come from someone directly involved in counter-espionage.

The British government is determined to stop the book and sent top civil servant Sir Robert Armstrong to argue in a Sydney court that publication would damage British national security and the confidence of other friendly intelligence services.

Wright's Australian lawyers have based their defence on the argument that no action was taken against two previous books on the British intelligence services, written by journalists but with information from former intelligence officials.

The government counters that Wright's disclosures, as distinguished from those of journalists, represent a breach of contract by a government employee.

However, as the case developed

in Sydney, it emerged that one of the previous books, written by British journalist Chapman Pincher, was based almost entirely on information supplied by Wright.

What was the difference, asked Wright's young lawyer, Malcolm Turnbull, between disclosing confidential information directly or through a third party?

Britain then sought to prevent top secret documents, which the defence hopes will shed some light on why the previous books were allowed to appear, being passed to Wright. It was ordered to turn some of them over by the Sydney supreme court. The government has lodged an appeal against the decision.

The British government's discomfort increased as other pillars of its case tottered under the onslaught of Wright's defence. An American expert in covert activities told the court the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) had cleared for publication dozens of manuscripts detailing its operations, including some involving Britain's intelligence.

Former Australian Prime Minister Gough Whitlam denied that the activities of the Australian security services or its links with British intelligence would be harmed by the book.

Whitlam noted that some of the activities alleged in the book to have been carried out by M15 would not be allowed by the Australian security service ASIO since it was brought under strict parliamentary control.

There was further bad news for the government from Dublin, where an attempt to stop publication of a book by another former M15 agent, Joan Miller, was thrown out by the Irish high court.

As opposition criticism of the government's handling of the case grew, together with demands from its own supporters to drop the case, Thatcher went on the offensive by accusing opposition leader Neil Kinnock of trying to undermine the government case, by regularly telephoning Wright's defence team in Australia for briefings.

Describing Kinnock's intervention in a matter of national security as astonishing, she accused the Labour Party leader of abandoning traditional bipartisanship on security questions and hinted that she might stop briefing him.

Kinnock, currently visiting the United States, denied any suggestions that he was a security risk.



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Finance minister outlines objectives of budget allocations

(Continued from page 1)

assistance to the Arab people under Israeli rule to enhance their steadiness, and also aims at bolstering bridges of cooperation with other Arab countries and enhancing Jordan's status within the international community.

The budget, slightly higher than the revised 1986 budget of JD 1 billion, allocates JD 209 million — 20.5 per cent of total expenditure — to defence — the same as the revised 1986 allocation — and JD 58,629 million for internal security spending.

The estimated revenue of JD 979,085 million is 4.5 per cent higher than the revised 1986 figure.

Aid from Arab countries and the United States is estimated at JD 208 million, and foreign and domestic loans and technical assistance at JD 144 million, 45 per cent and 60 per cent respectively higher than the revised 1986 estimates.

Current expenditure is estimated at JD 585.2 million and capital expenditure at JD 289.7 million, both up 4.1 per cent.

The budget provides JD 10 million towards the five-year development scheme for the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Dr. Odeh told the House that similar sums would be earmarked in future budgets, in addition to government expenditure to support the steadfastness of the people living under Israeli occupation.

Dr. Odeh said economic conditions in the Middle East, including Jordan, had been weakened by economic and political events, including the continuing Gulf war and the Lebanese strife.

But he added that the value of the Jordanian dinar had been maintained, remittances from Jordanian expatriates had noticeably increased, and the best service ratio remained within the acceptable limits.

Dr. Odeh estimated the jobless rate at eight per cent of the total work force.

The finance minister said the government was determined to promote exports, provide more jobs and boost local production, while keeping a tight check on expenditure and developing local sources of revenue.

He thanked Gulf Cooperation Council countries, especially Saudi Arabia, for their continued financial aid to Jordan.

The House will debate the budget, and incorporate amendments, if necessary, after the House Finance Committee studies it.

Following is an unofficial translation of Dr. Odeh's statement to the House on Saturday:

Mr. Speaker and distinguished members of Parliament,

THE international arena is still suffering from economic recession, which has kept the world's growth rates within their natural limits.

Although the recession centres on the economies of developing countries, the international economy as a whole is still undergoing a very crucial phase as a result of intertwined trade cycles and other factors.

Despite the recent emergence of certain positive indications in the world, including a decline in international inflation rates, a decrease in the exchange value of the U.S. dollar as well as other major hard currencies, the current decade is still witnessing a wide gap between the rich North countries and the poor South. This is due to several negative factors.

Of these negative factors is the sharp decline in the prices of exports from the South, mainly oil, when compared with industrial commodities imported from the industrialised rich countries. Another factor which even further broadened the gap is fluctuations in the exchange values of hard currencies in addition to a decrease in financial assistance from the industrialised countries. These two important factors aggravated unemployment in the southern countries.

progress and prosperity on the one hand and adversely affected the stability of the international oil markets on the other.

The sharp decline of international oil prices came simultaneously with a fierce Israeli campaign against the Arab population, holy shrines and economy of the occupied territories. Adding further to the situation were the escalation of the nearly seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war and its spillover to neighbouring Arab Gulf countries and the continuing Lebanese strife.

These regional military conflicts have gone beyond affecting the whole economic situation in the region to an extent where national growth rates, demand for manpower as well as patterns governing regional and international relations have remarkably been changed.

Jordan, which has close ties with the rest of the world countries, was directly affected by the regional and international economic fluctuations, a fact which doubled the Kingdom's responsibilities together with the influx of defence burden imposed on the Kingdom for having the longest confrontation line with Israel.

Mr. Speaker, and distinguished members of Parliament,

NOTWITHSTANDING the negative effects on the local economy, Jordan has proven to have set a world-acknowledged record in all fields of developments. Thanks to the Kingdom's ability to adapt to the international economic fluctuations and its own economic flexibility, Jordan managed to maintain its achievements in national development.

Initial indications show that the projected growth rate in the fiscal year is compatible with the figures envisaged in the Third National Five-Year Development Plan in its first year. Moreover, the share of investment in the gross national product (GNP) remained high. It exceeded 25 per cent of the GNP. All this was achieved within the framework of economic stability and stability of prices which gave no way for higher inflation rates.

However, despite the increase in the volume of export revenues from exports dwindled below its level in 1985 as a result of a sharp drop in international prices. Notwithstanding the above factors, the deficit in the balance of trade is expected to register a decrease of more than JD 120 million, compared to the previous fiscal year, and that is due to a decline in imports.

The Jordanian dinar has maintained its value when most foreign currency exchange rates plummeted to record lows. Remittances from Jordanian expatriates have registered a noticeable improvement over that in previous years and the cost of serving foreign debts remains within acceptable limits as dictated by the overall revenue from exports.

The current economic phase, however, warranted a need to direct the monetary policy towards supporting investments in local development projects by giving further incentives for investors in the form of direct and/or indirect tax exemptions, a process which would lead to a 25 per cent decrease in tax revenues, and a nine per cent decline in customs duty revenues.

However, income tax revenues increased by four per cent over its projected target for 1986, and that is due to the citizens' prompt response in fulfilling their tax commitments. The decline in international oil prices has also helped the 1986 budget.

It is worthwhile mentioning that if it was not for the government's bid to change certain budgetary items by fulfilling outstanding local financial commitments, which piled up during the 70s, the 1986 budget could have secured a surplus of funds.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished members of Parliament,

ALTHOUGH all these positive indications reflect a sound economic situation, the national economy is still suffering from certain structural imbalances represented in a huge volume of consumption exceeding the GNP, a fact which continuously kept local savings in a negative ratio

and warranted a chronic deficit in the balance of payment.

On the other hand, the local labour market was subject to a structural unemployment which is estimated to have reached an alarming rate of nearly eight per cent of the total labour force.

The government's main objective is to tackle current economic issues and at the same time drafting long-term socio-economic plans.

The government has maintained its economic policy which aims at creating adequate investment atmosphere for local, Arab and foreign funds. In this regard, the government has taken steps aiming at encouraging incorporation of financial institutions in order to strengthen its financial structure and capabilities to be able to fund national investments. To further support the investors, the government has also introduced flexibility to interest rates at this particular time when liquidity is rising in the banking sector. The ceiling for resident accounts in foreign currency has been increased.

In its drive to support the private sector, the government has given local producers and investors further support within its protectionist policy.

The government has included the private sector in its national development planning and economic decision-making. Several studies are under way to explore prospects of converting government-owned organisations into private concerns within the government's drive for privatisation.

The government has kept all the communications channel between Jordanian expatriates and their homeland and this was illustrated in the convening of the second expatriates conference in July. The conference recommended establishing a holding company at a total equity of JD 100 million to finance a number of development projects.

The government was also keen to pursue legislative and administrative improvement and development in order to facilitate implementing all economic projects. Preparation of draft laws governing contractors, companies, industry, industry and insurance were part of the government's achievements in this regard. Amendments to the law for encouraging investments and other relevant laws have also been introduced.

Mr. Speaker, and distinguished members of Parliament,

THE YEAR 1986 was the first year of the Third National Development Plan, a plan which defined the country's socio-economic targets within long-term economic strategy. The targets as envisaged in the plan, which included more than JD 3 billion in investments, include increasing job vacancies, rationalisation of local consumption, developing national assets and curtailing the deficit in the balance of commodities and services.

Beside the sector breakdown in planning, the government adopted a programmed scheme for regional development in the governorates and administrative districts.

Simultaneously, the government prepared a development scheme to develop the occupied Arab territories aimed at organising and bolstering the government's previous efforts to strengthen the steadfastness of the Arab people living under Israeli occupation.

Jordan has presented its development programme for the West Bank and Gaza in an international conference under the title "Towards Bolstering Regional and International Cooperation" which was convened in Amman under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein in November.

Participants at the conference, which was chaired by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, stressed the need for implementing the development programme for the West Bank and Gaza. They paid tribute to Jordan's sound economic policy and long-term strategic planning.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished members of Parliament,

THE NUMEROUS decisions and

diversified measures aimed at tackling the current economic phase remain within the framework of our historic strategy which can be summarised in the following points:

- Mobilising all possible resources to support the Armed Forces, resuming the programme of training People's Army recruits and developing the Civil Defence and Public Security departments;
- Maintaining efforts aimed at supporting the steadfastness of the Arab population in the occupied territories;
- Enhancing cooperation with the Arab countries;
- Bolstering Jordan's international position, and deepening its international credibility and consolidating international trust in Jordan's economy;
- Continuing efforts to achieve socio-economic targets as set by short and long-term policies.

Since the general budget represents the government's comprehensive programme and reflects its economic orientation, the 1987 fiscal budget is considered an extension of previous measures and resolutions that have had a direct and immediate effect on the social and economic activity in Jordan. This draft budget before you complements the government's policies and is in line with the resolutions passed in this concern by the Lower and Upper Houses of Parliament.

The fulfilment of the aims of the government's efforts towards stimulating the national economy requires full and positive cooperation and response on the part of the public so that the government can handle the points of weakness in the labour market, the trade balance and enhance the country's reserves of foreign currency. The four basic elements in the Kingdom's social and economic policies.

For this reason the government has set a ministerial committee to handle the issue of unemployment and to investigate its causes with prime attention to be given to finding employment for university and community college graduates. This committee will propose practical suggestions for dealing with unemployment on the short and long term range.

The government is seriously going on with its policy of increasing the volume of exports and offering financial and credit facilities for exporters and is encouraging imports and trying to make the country depend as much as possible on local industries, but it is also keeping controls on quality and prices. All this is aimed at boosting the country's productivity and reducing the deficit in the balance of trade and enhancing the Kingdom's balance of payments.

In line with these policies, the government is determined to re-organise money lending institutions for the purpose of increasing their role in finance operations and increasing the margin of coordination and interaction with various banks in Jordan in the process of joint financing for development projects.

To ensure a sound course and to realise the maximum benefits, the private sector in Jordan is called on to exert more efforts towards promoting the performance of its various institutions and in reconciling individual interests with those of the public interest and also increasing the trend towards self-reliance and expanding Jordan's foreign markets. At the same time, the government believes that success in building up self potential and bolstering the base of productivity and rationalising consumption and enhancing the country's foreign currency reserves, requires a favourable response on the part of the citizens who should shoulder their national responsibilities.

Allow me to place before you the most important features of the 1987 fiscal budget:

- FIRST, controlling and rationalising expenditure, increasing local revenues and easing procedures for collecting them so that the government can raise sufficient income to cover current expenses and also help finance capital expenses.
- SECOND, continuing to honour all financial commitments of the treasury and its guarantees.

THIRD, making available necessary allocations for capital projects contained in the plan in accordance with priorities and within the country's means and its capability to create jobs and increasing foreign currency reserves.

FOURTH, allocating JD 10 million as a contribution from the treasury towards implementing a development programme in the occupied Arab lands during 1987 and allocating a similar sum in the budgets of the coming years, in addition to the annual allocations made for various institutions in the occupied West Bank.

FIFTH, expanding the government's support for agricultural production and exports.

SIXTH, supporting universities and public institutions within the means of the general budget of 1986 with the intention of gradually reducing the subsidy for these institutions if and when they begin to generate their own income, so as to become finally self-sufficient.

In 1986 the government did not confine its efforts to supporting certain sectors but directed its attention towards all economic and social sectors in Jordan. Among the most important fields that acquired the government's attention were:

FIRST, agricultural irrigation sectors — Agriculture assumes the foremost importance among all other sectors due to its economic and social significance for Jordan. For this reason, the government has given it priority and undertaken a series of measures to support farmers and modernise agricultural patterns with the hope of arriving at an increase in output. The government has exempted farmers from paying interest on loans acquired in 1986 due to the difficult conditions they faced in the previous agricultural season. The government has also re-scheduled farmers' debts with the aim of alleviating the financial burdens of these farmers, and also subsidised their agricultural products by offering competitive prices for them in advance of the harvest.

The government has provided financial help to farmers who have been applying the agricultural pattern system and has re-examined the work of the Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company of Jordan (AMPCO) and prepared a draft law for the Agricultural Marketing Corporation. In addition, the government has signed agreements with companies from the private sector for leasing state owned land in the south-eastern regions of the Kingdom for commercial use. A total of 10,000 dunams will be grown with wheat and fodder and will be used for raising animals and setting up agricultural industries. Surveys have been conducted for leasing more land for this purpose. The government also intends to distribute arable land to badia people and for this purpose has completed a survey of 40,000 dunams of land in their region.

At present several major agricultural projects are underway. These include the development of the Zarqa basin, the highlands, the Hammad Basin and also extending the East Ghor Canal. It has been decided to set up a new dam, the Mallaqa Dam in Kabed Ghor, for storing up to 55 million cubic metres of water and to increase the capacity of the Wadi Al Arab Dam. The total allocations for these projects exceeded JD 28 million.

SECOND, industry — The government has been active in promoting the role of local industry and providing it with protection and also creating a suitable atmosphere for investments in medium and light industry. The government has also made ample financial provisions for this endeavour because it believes it has potential positive effects on regional development, creating new jobs and increasing exports. The government has also been busy trying to handle industrial issues, especially those of major firms facing financial problems. It has raised the volume of capital for some of these companies and re-scheduled the debts of others.

It has also offered financial facilities to these companies and helped others to merge, such as the phosphate and the fertiliser

companies, and set up an executive committee to handle the problems of the chemical phosphate and potash industries to supervise their operations like production and marketing.

The government has concluded a number of export agreements with Arab and friendly states and major Jordanian firms have thus been able to increase their exports. We hope that world prices of various products will stabilise and so help local companies enjoy financial stability. The government has reduced the cost of commodity production of certain industries that utilise fuel by refunding 50 per cent of the cost of the fuel used in exported goods to these industries. The Amman industrial estate has been completed and work on another industrial estate has begun in Irbid. The government is now laying down a strategy for developing tourism in different parts of the country and intends to increase investments in several tourist projects. For this reason, the government has leased state owned land along the Dead Sea for setting up tourist projects.

THIRD, water — The government directs special attention to the water sector and is trying hard to achieve a balance between water supplies and water use. Water studies are underway to arrive at a long-term water strategy and this entails modernisation and the replacement of old watersystems. The government has reduced the cost of water by 20 per cent in order to reduce the citizens' financial burdens and is continually awarding tenders for carrying out sanitation projects and sewers in various cities. This sector has been allocated JD 48 million in the 1987 budget.

FOURTH, energy and electricity — His Majesty King Hussein has opened the first stage of the Agaba Thermal Power Station, which will boost the Kingdom's power capacity by 43 per cent. Preparations are now underway for announcing a tender for the second stage of this project to ensure sufficient amount of electric power which will eventually be linked with the national grids of other Arab countries. Already, Jordan's national grid has been linked to that of Syria. The government has reduced the price of power by 20 per cent for consumers and has supplied light to main roads surrounding Amman and almost all parts of Jordan's rural regions have been supplied with electricity.

With regard to oil prospecting, the national plan for searching for oil at Hamzah field is going ahead according to its timetable and agreements have been concluded with two world companies to search for oil in other parts of the Kingdom. Side by side with this programme, the government has conducted studies for exploiting oil shale which could become a major source of energy and complementary to oil. In the 1987 draft budget, the government has allocated JD 24.5 million for this sector, of which JD 14.5 million is for electricity and JD 9.5 million for oil prospecting.

FIFTH, transport and communications — The government has reorganised road transport and is continuing the process of maintaining roads to ensure public safety. It has awarded a tender for building the Zarqa/Mazraah highway to link the southern Jordan Valley region to the central Jordan Valley. The government plans to announce a tender for building the Thaghrat Asfour/Irbid highway and many other roads around the country. For this reason, the government has allocated JD 39.7 million in its

1987 budget for roads, in addition to JD 9 million for building railroad and improving civil aviation operations.

The government has endorsed an agreement with the Arab Shipping Company that operates between Jordan, Iraq and Egypt and continues to promote its Aqaba port by supplying it with necessary requirements for handling any volume of goods and passengers. The government is also modernising its Royal Jordanian Airline fleet and trying to open new routes for the airline around the world.

The government is going ahead with a project for developing the country's telecommunications and postal services and improving this sector's performance. For this reason it has reduced the rate for international calls. The government has allocated JD 20 million in the 1987 budget for promoting the transport and telecommunications sector.

SIXTH, education — In step with the requirements of development, the government plans to reorganise and promote the educational process in a manner that would make education more responsive to the requirements of the local and Arab labour markets. In 1986, the government opened the University of Science and Technology and a civilian wing was added to the Mu'ta military university. It has approved measures for opening a private university and opened the way for universities to accept 50 per cent more students than in previous years. It also laid down the basis for accepting community college graduates at Jordanian universities. At present the government is building schools in various regions and has allocated JD 41.5 million for school buildings and JD 9.5 million for assisting Jordanian universities.

SEVENTH, health — The government has given its consent for setting up five new hospitals in Amman, Irbid, Ajloun, Karak, and Tafleh and will build more health centres in different regions of the Kingdom. The government has, for this reason, allocated JD 12 million to spend on these important projects. It has also amended health laws and regulations, including the Jordan Medical Council law and the national health scheme and organised the use of drug dispensing through doctors' prescriptions.

EIGHTH, other sectors — The government has finalised organisational arrangements to enable the National Aid Fund to start operating and has earmarked JD 3 million in the 1987 budget for this project. The concerned authorities are currently conducting a social survey to define the needy families in society, prior to extending help to them. The government is keen on promoting the work of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs to enable it to cover its current expenses, the cost of restoring mosques and other religious places, including the tombs of martyrs. For this reason, the government has allocated JD 8 million in the 1987 budget for this purpose.

The government gives due attention to encouraging science and technology in Jordan for the purpose of promoting the development process. For this reason, the government has set up a national committee to take charge of the nation's science and technology policy and to lay down a national programme for developing this sector and defining priorities of projects that should receive financing.

The government is keen on promoting the concept of culture and the role of youth and has been

supporting the activities of youth and sports centres and giving attention to youth facilities around the country.

NINTH, economic cooperation with the Arab World — The government has adopted effective measures for according similar facilities to citizens from other Arab countries as those provided for Jordanians in the field of investments and has set up holding companies with Iraq, Egypt and Saudi Arabia to achieve this end. The government has also set up a joint Jordanian-Kuwaiti ministerial committee and held a number of trade exhibitions and fairs in Arab countries as well as hosting exhibitions by other Arab countries. Jordan is also making preparations to hold a Jordanian investment seminar in Kuwait early next year in an effort to highlight prospects for investment in Jordan.

ALLOW me, honourable deputies, to present to you the following figures for the new fiscal budget for 1987 and the estimations for 1987.

FIRST: The volume of the budget: JD 1,018.7 (1.6 per cent for reestimation of the 1986 budget)

SECOND: a) Revenues

1. Local revenues: JD 586 million.
2. Financial assistance: JD 208 million.
3. Refundable loans: JD 41.3 million.

Total revenues: JD 835.3 million (21 per cent for reestimation of the 1986 budget)

b) Expenses

1. Current expenses: JD 585.2 million.
2. Capital expenses: JD 289.7 million, related to capital projects: JD 143.3 million.
- Total expenses: JD 874.9 million (4.1 per cent for reestimation of the 1986 budget)

THIRD: Development projects financed through loans and aid: JD 143.8 million.

These have been distributed to the following main sectors:

1. Defence and public security: JD 260 million.
2. Public administration and finance: JD 364.3 million.
3. Economic development services: JD 262.2 million.
4. Social and cultural sectors: JD 132.2 million.

Total: JD 1,018.7 million.

By comparing figures of estimation for expenses (JD 1,018.7 million) with those estimated for revenues (JD 835.3 million) one can see that a JD 183.4 million deficit exists and this represents nearly 4.7 per cent of the revenues and it is a reasonable margin in terms of financial and economic criteria. This deficit will be covered through controlling expenses and improving revenues and also through local and foreign loans.

It should be noted, however, that the budget of 1987 included JD 43.4 million for supporting institutions that offer public services in higher education, housing, transport, water etc. Of this amount, JD 18 million will be for supporting current expenses and JD 25.4 million for capital expenses.

The projects of these institutions have been listed in one document so that parliament can study it separately. These institutions are expected to spend JD 500 million and so by adding this to the proposed budget, the total will become JD 1,518.7 million.

It is our duty to send greetings and appreciation to the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council, and especially to Saudi Arabia for honouring its financial commitments to Jordan and we hope that God will enable us to overcome all the difficulties and fulfil our national aspirations.

Deputies condemn U.S.-Iran deal

(Continued from page 1)

House to renew their support to King Hussein's stand in support for Iraq, and suggested his proposal that a cable be sent to President Hussein.

Apart from a debate over the government's policy on the information media, a suggestion was made during Saturday's House session by Hebron Deputy Wahid Al Jabari urging the House to adopt concrete and effective measures to halt the recent Israeli practices against Palestinian citizens in the West Bank.

Deputy Jabari cautioned that

the Israeli attacks on citizens of Jerusalem would eventually spread to other West Bank cities including Nablus, Ramallah and Hebron.

"The Israelis' fierce campaign appears to be directed towards abolishing the basic elements of maintaining the components of Arab life in Jerusalem," said Mr. Jabari. "Our families there are defenceless civilians and their only means of defending themselves is their deep belief in their identity and land," he added.

He also referred to the recent attacks on Palestinians living in the refugee camps in Lebanon by

the Amal militia as well as the Lebanese army and Israel's proxy forces in South Lebanon.

"I call on the House to take effective measures to immediately halt the bloodshed of our families in the West Bank and in Lebanon," Mr. Jabari concluded.

They also referred the 1987 draft law on the fiscal budget to the Finance Committee.

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AMMAN JORDAN

Italy downs Malta 2-0

Italian captain scores once, misses 2 penalties

VALLETTA (R) — Italy beat Malta 2-0 in a European Championship qualifier that saw Italian captain Alessandro Altobelli score one goal and miss two second-half penalties.

The victory in front of 20,000 spectators at the Ta Qali Stadium, puts Italy second in Group Two, one point behind Sweden who has played one more match. Malta's second successive home defeat leaves it bottom of the five-man group.

During a fine 20-minute spell in the first half it seemed Italy was about to inflict another heavy defeat on the hapless Maltese, who lost 5-0 to Sweden last month.

Internazionale's Riccardo Ferri, making his debut in the national side, scored Italy's first with a fine header in the 11th minute.

Nine minutes later Inter teammate Altobelli made it 2-0. His third goal in Italy's qualifying campaign was almost a carbon

copy of Ferri's, a header from a freekick.

But the Italians were not able to build further on their overwhelming superiority in terms of fitness, speed and tactics, and the second half rapidly turned into a nightmare for Altobelli.

After 46 minutes Italy was awarded a penalty following a foul on midfielder Roberto Donadoni. Altobelli, the most experienced player in the side, stepped up confidently but blazed the ball

over the bar.

Sixteen minutes later Gianluca Vialli was fouled in the area and once more the Italian captain came forward to take the shot. This time he shot straight at Maltese goalkeeper John Bognello.

Italy's coach Azeglio Vicini, while disappointed with the lack of goals, must be satisfied with the performance of his two new caps.

Ferri had a fine game while Giuseppe Giannini dominated the middle of the field and lent useful support to his forwards. Left back Sebastiano Nela also proved a useful replacement for Antonio Cabrini.

Group two standings:									
	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts.		
Sweden	3	2	1	0	8	1	5		
Italy	2	2	0	0	5	2	4		
Portugal	2	0	2	0	2	2	2		
Switzerland	3	0	1	2	3	6	1		
Malta	2	0	0	2	0	7	0		

Arsenal extends unbeaten streak to 10

LONDON (R) — Resurgent Arsenal, fired by goals from emerging young forwards Martin Hayes and Niall Quinn, sustained its English Soccer League title quest with a 3-1 win over London rival Queen's Park Rangers Saturday.

Leader Arsenal extended its unbeaten sequence in the First Division to 10 games and stayed two points clear of second-placed Nottingham Forest, who beat bottom club Manchester City 2-0.

Champion Liverpool was stunned by a 2-0 defeat at Watford, allowing its great rival and neighbour Everton to take over third place after an emphatic 4-0 home victory against Norwich.

Arsenal, flourishing under new manager George Graham, was given a flying start with a fourth-minute goal from Hayes, whose consistently fine displays have been a key factor in his team's pacesetter form.

Quinn, like Hayes an exciting 20-year-old prospect, strengthened Arsenal's grip by scoring midway through the second half, while Hayes sealed success with his second goal — and seventh in seven league games — after 84 minutes.

Gary Bannister reduced the deficit five minutes from the finish, only the fourth goal Arsenal has conceded in its last 10 league matches.

Forest, who is making a determined assault on the title under manager Brian Clough's influence, inflicted further misery on a Manchester City side who is now without a victory in nine away games.

Garry Birtles headed Forest into the lead two minutes after halftime and winger Franz Carr scored the second five minutes from the end.

Liverpool, crucially missing its Danish international midfielder Jan Molby because of a hamstring injury, trailed in the 25th minute when defender John McClelland seized his first goal of the season.

With Juventus-bound striker Ian Rush unable to make his mark and Liverpool losing the battle in midfield, Watford struck again after 64 minutes with a brilliant goal from its England striker John Barnes.

Barnes turned cleverly just inside Liverpool's half, held off two challenges on a dazzling 40-metre run, and drove a low shot inside the far post.

The champion slipped to fourth spot behind Everton, who has emphasised its depth of strength and character by staying firmly in

the title hunt despite injuries to a number of its key players.

Defender Paul Power, formerly with Manchester City, put Everton ahead after 19 minutes and a Trevor Steven penalty soon afterwards left Norwich with an uphill task.

A late two-goal burst, with Neil Pointon and Adrian Heath getting on the scoresheet, underlined Everton's superiority.

Third-placed Everton has 32 points, one ahead of Liverpool, with Arsenal on 37 and Forest on 35.

John Aldridge, the prolific Oxford marksman, took the scoring honours with a hat-trick that was the inspiration of a 4-2 home win over Luton.

Chelsea also conceded four goals, without reply, at home to Wimbledon — a drubbing that heightened its plight and left it next to bottom of the 22-team division.

Marseille escapes defeat

PARIS (R) — An 89th minute goal helped Marseille narrowly escape a humiliating home defeat and stay top of the French Soccer League Friday night.

With rival Bordeaux convincingly beating Lille 3-0, Marseille needed the late goal from midfielder Bernard Genghini to salvage a 2-2 draw against Brest and remain on top by one point.

Brest has earned a reputation as troublemakers for leading teams with a draw against Nantes and a

win at Bordeaux recently, and it went ahead after only four minutes through a goal by striker Gerard Buscher.

But Marseille central defender Jean-Francois Domergue equalised a minute before halftime from a free-kick.

Brest was ahead again through Maurice Bouquet in the 56th minute following a blunder from defender Jean-Marc Galtier but Genghini, who joined Marseille only two weeks ago, saved his new teammates with a volley from the left wing one minute from time.

Bordeaux, who dropped its last two matches, trounced Lille at home with a fine attacking display.



Patrice Franceschi rests in his ultralight aircraft after his aerobatics at Marka Airport on Saturday.

Round-the-world flyer stops in Jordan

By Fred Donovan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Swooping down to skim the ground and quickly climbing again, Patrice Franceschi demonstrates his piloting skills. His ultralight aircraft banks left, then right, circles, and dives. He finally lands and emerges from his aircraft in a white flying suit, smiling after his aerial display.

Mr. Franceschi's aerobatics took place at Marka Airport on Saturday. Marka is also where he landed on Wednesday, his first day in Jordan.

The Frenchman is attempting to set the record for travelling around the world in an ultralight aircraft. So far, he has travelled 30,000 kilometres, which is already, according to him, the record. His goal is to complete 40,000 kilometres, the circumference of the globe.

The adventurer, who comes from Corsica, began his trip 26 months ago from France. He first crossed Spain, then made his way to Morocco, and finally Senegal in West Africa. From there, he and his disassembled aircraft took a ship to Brazil. Next, he flew over South America, up Central America to North America. He then took a second ship to Singapore where he began the final leg of his journey. He made his way to the Indian subcontinent.

In India, Mr. Franceschi had his only serious accident. While trying to land in a field during a monsoon, he crashed, badly damaging his aircraft. After spending time in India repairing it, he flew on to Pakistan where he met another ultralight aircraft adventurer, Eve Jackson of Britain. Ms. Jackson had visited Jordan this summer, and was on her way to Sydney.

"We exchanged information," Franceschi said. "She is going the way I have come, and I am going the way she has come. She is going to Sydney. I wish her luck," he said.

One thing that impressed the Corsican was the hospitality of the Jordanians. "I have crossed 30 countries, and in many countries it was difficult. Arriving in Jordan, I was struck by the hospitality of the Jordanian people, and the Royal Air Force that met me when I landed... It was not exactly like landing in France, but it was almost France."

After Jordan, he plans to go to Syria, then Turkey, Greece, and Italy, before returning to his native France. At the moment, he is waiting for permission to fly to Syria.

His ultralight aircraft has a small cockpit with just enough room for one person to sit in. It is powered by a small engine which is started by pulling a rope. The wings are composed of a light frame with nylon stretched over it, nylon used in sails.

The range of the aircraft for one flight is 350 kilometres, or 5 hours. Its maximum altitude is 11,000 feet, which he had to attain in order to cross some mountain ranges in Spain and Mexico. He flies without an oxygen mask, but with a parachute, a parachute which is "for the plane," he said.

Greek fan stabbed to death in fight

ATHENS (R) — A 20-year-old Greek soccer fan was stabbed to death Friday night when rival supporters of the Paok and AEK teams clashed at Athens railway station, police said Saturday.

It was not immediately known who the dead man was or which team he supported. Police arrested two people in connection with the stabbing.

This was the second death of a Greek soccer fan in less than two months. On October 26, a 29-year-old man died when struck in the neck by a firework at a soccer match in Larissa in central Greece.

Edberg joins top seeds in semis

NEW YORK (AP) — Ecuador's Andres Gomez edged Yannick Noah 7-6, 7-6 Friday night, boosting Sweden's Stefan Edberg into the semifinals of the \$500,000 Masters Tennis Tournament.

Edberg, despite losing Friday, joined top-seeded Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia, West Germany's Boris Becker and Sweden's Mats Wilander in the "final four" of this season-ending event. Thus, Sunday's semifinals will feature the top four ranked players in the world.

Earlier Friday, Becker cooled off a blazing Henri Leconte of France 6-6, 6-1, 6-1, and Lendl, stopped Edberg 6-3, 6-4.

Lendl, Becker and Wilander have 2-0 records in the round-robin portion of the eight-man event, while Edberg is 2-1. Until Gomez's victory, Noah had a mathematical chance of gaining a semifinal spot.

The round-robin will be completed Saturday night when Leconte plays Joakim Nystrom, Lendl faces Noah and Becker meets Wilander.

The title will be decided Monday night, with the champion earning \$100,000.

Each of the eight players received \$10,000 for qualifying for the event, with \$20,000 going to the winner of each round-robin match. The winning semifinalists will receive \$40,000 each.

Gomez won both tiebreakers by 7-4 scores, although Noah had his chances. The left-hander from Ecuador fought off four set points in the 10th game and two in the 12th to send the second set into the tiebreaker.

Noah was leading 5-2 in the second set when he became ill and had to be attended to at the side of the court.

"I had a bad cheeseburger," he later said.

After that, Noah was able to win only one more game, and that after Gomez had pulled even.

The Lendl-Edberg match had a strange ending. Although Lendl had two service breaks in wrapping up the first set, the second set was battled on even terms until the 10th and final game.

Then, with Edberg leading 30-15 on his own serve, Lendl pulled even when Edberg hit a forehand volley long. The Swede then committed his first double-fault of the night, putting Lendl one point away from victory.

Edberg double-faulted again to close out the 75-minute match played on the supreme court at Madison Square Garden.

"That's not the way you'd like to end the match," Edberg said. "On the first one I didn't concentrate, and on the second I was just a little too long."

Leconte was perfection in the first 22 minutes of his match against Becker. That's how long it

took for the French left-hander to zap through the first six games, hitting winners from all over the court.

He also was aided by the fact Becker couldn't find the edge with his volleys. Nine times the second-seeded Swiss-ago came to the net. Eight times he missed, including one easy overhead that he buried in to the bottom of the net.

Leconte was so dominant that Becker was able to win just four points on his own serve in the opening set.

"On every important point, he hit a winner or a net cord or an ace," Becker said of Leconte's torrid start. "It was very difficult to get into the match. I didn't even sweat."

It was a different story after that.

Becker ripped through the four games of the second set before Leconte was finally able to hold serve. Becker then went on a seven-game streak that wrapped up the middle set and gave him a 5-0 lead in the third.

It didn't matter when the Frenchman was able to hold his service in the sixth game at love. Becker closed out the victory in the next game.

"I had the momentum at the beginning of the second set," Becker said. "I took advantage of my chances and I broke him."

"From then on, I started playing tennis and he started missing a few more."

Underdogs triumph in title bouts

LAS VEGAS, Nevada (AP) — Underdog Duane Thomas of the United States stopped John "The Beast" Mugabi with a barrage of punches in the third round and won the vacant World Boxing Council super welterweight title Friday night.

Mugabi had hurt Thomas with an overhead right to the head in the second round and landed a hard left hook to the head early in the third.

Suddenly, Thomas crashed a left hook to the body and one to the head and Mugabi almost went down. The Ugandan righted himself and was driven into the ropes by Thomas.

Mugabi turned and faced the crowd, grabbing the ropes, as Thomas continued to hit him from behind.

Referee Carlos Padilla then wrapped his arms around Mugabi and stopped the scheduled 12-round fight at 56 seconds of the third round.

It was the second upset of the night.

In an earlier fight, Greg Haugen, a 4-1 Underdog, scored a 15-round majority decision over fellow American Jimmy Paul to win the International Boxing Federation lightweight title.

"I thought it was awful close," Haugen said. "Anytime it's that close it usually goes in the champion's favour."

A vast majority of the writers at ringside felt Paul deserved the

decision.

It was Mugabi's second defeat in a bid for a championship this year. Last March 10, he challenged Marvelous Marvin Hagler for the undisputed middleweight title and was knocked out in the 11th round.

The super welterweight title became vacant when Thomas Hearn relinquished it. Hearn will challenge Dennis Andries of Britain for the WBC light heavyweight title in February.

The loss was Mugabi's second straight by knockout after he won his first 26 pro fights by knockout.

Mugabi, 153 1-2 pounds (69 1-2 kilograms), came out winging in the first round, but missed with several big swings. Thomas, 152 1-4 pounds (69 kilograms), didn't do much, but he did land a couple of jabs and one right hand.

The 26-year-old Mugabi wobbled Thomas with a right hand to the head one minute into the second round. The 25-year-old Thomas escaped, but took another good right before the round was over.

Mugabi, with knockout on his mind, came out gumming in the third round, then came the

surprising ending.

Thomas, who earned \$100,000, boosted his record to 29-2 with 21 knockouts. Mugabi's purse was \$175,000.

Haugen was busy and aggressive throughout. But Paul seemed to score the sharper punches and appeared to be in command during the last five rounds.

However, all three judges had Haugen ahead after 10 rounds and after 15, judges Robert Levine and Art Lurie each favoured Haugen. Levine saw it 144-141 and Lurie 143-142. Robert Cox called it 143-143.

There were no knockdowns, but both fighters were marked. Paul, making his fourth title defence, was cut on the lower lip in the fifth round.

Haugen, was cut over the right eye in the seventh round.

In the third round, Paul wobbled Haugen with a left jab and a right to the side of the head. In the seventh, Haugen hurt Paul with a left hook to the jaw that made the defending champion back up.

The 25-year-old Haugen, who got \$50,000, now has a 19-0-1 record with nine knockouts. He was the IBF's no. 12 contender.

Australia IV narrows gap on Kookaburra III

FREMANTLE, Australia (AP) — Showing tremendous off-wind speed, Australia IV came from behind twice Saturday to defeat Kookaburra II in the third round of the America's Cup defenders' trials.

Colin Beashel steered the Bond Syndicate to a 20 second victory on the gusty coast off this Indian Ocean port city.

There was only one race held in the 23 to 25 knot breezes as the 12 challengers had a lay day. South Australia was scheduled to face Kookaburra III, but reported mast troubles and withdrew from the race. Kookaburra III was required to complete the course to win the three points awarded to third round victors.

A decision was expected Sunday on whether South Australia will withdraw from the series. The South Australia boat has been purchased by a Swedish syndicate. A syndicate spokesman earlier called the withdrawal rumours premature.

Saturday's victory was Beashel's second of the week over archrival Iain Murray. Australia

IV defeated Murray aboard Kookaburra III on Thursday.

The race showed that Australia IV was far superior off the wind while Kookaburra II had the edge upwind.

Murray helmed Kookaburra I to a slight lead of two seconds a the start and then quickly moved out front by 26 seconds at the first mark.

Once the chutes were raised Beashel took off and by the time the two boats rounded the leeward mark, Australia IV held an eight second margin.

Kookaburra II picked up 3 seconds on the reaching leg, so managed to cut it to 25 seconds on the next two legs.

Murray gained another 1 seconds on the windward leg out to see it disappear on the final leg to the finish sporting a 12 second margin.

A furious tacking duel allowed him to add eight seconds on the final 3.25-mile leg.

Kookaburra III still holds six-point margin over Austral

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Eng. Mohammad S. Kilani
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Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 677420
THE REPORT
(Arabic)
Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **RAGHADAN** Tel: 622198
THE MIGHTY GIANT
Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 8:00

French minister resigns over Paris student riots

One student dies in clashes with police

PARIS (R) — France's Minister for Higher Education and Research, Alain Devaquet, submitted his resignation to Prime Minister Jacques Chirac Saturday following protests by students over his controversial university reform bill, officials said.

A spokesman for Mr. Chirac said Mr. Devaquet sent his letter of resignation to the premier early Saturday but refused to say if it was accepted.

Mr. Devaquet's move came only hours after overnight clashes between protesters and anti-riot police in Paris during which one student died. It was the first death since the protest began 10 days ago.

Mr. Devaquet, author of the controversial bill, is junior minister to Education Minister Rene Monory.

A hospital spokeswoman said the student died in hospital after a heart attack.

Paris police headquarters said in a communique that an inquiry had been opened into the incident and named the victim as Malik Ousseline, a student at the Paris Dauphine University College.

National Assembly Speaker Jacques Chaban-Delmas suspended debate in parliament over the death while the opposition Socialist and

Communist parties called on Mr. Chaban-Delmas to summon Interior Minister Charles Pasqua to the chamber to explain the incident.

France-Inter Radio said Ousseline was hit on the head when riot police on motorcycles were chasing protesters outside the Sorbonne University.

Protesters and police clashed only hours after Prime Minister Jacques Chirac's government announced it was scrapping parts of an education reform bill which had sparked student riots.

They said the clashes lasted about 15 minutes but during that time protesters broke windows, overturned two vehicles and tried to set a sports car on fire.

Police evacuated students from the Sorbonne and patrolled the area through the night.

Student leaders later dissociated themselves from the protesters outside the Sorbonne, saying they were extremist agitators intent on provoking trouble.

Education Minister Rene Monory announced four hours earlier that he was dropping three contested points from the education bill, which sparked a two-week strike in most of France's 70-odd universities.

Students occupying the Sorbonne, the oldest university in Paris, jeered and hissed at the end of Mr. Monory's broadcast and several expressed disappointment.

"This is a politician's response — Monory has not addressed our real demands," was the comment of one of the students.

The students have always demanded a total scrapping of the bill, which they see as elitist, favouring rich students and likely to accentuate differences in quality between universities.

More than 170 people were hurt on Thursday evening after a March by some 200,000 opponents of the university reform which degenerated into pitched battles between police and protesters.

The government blames the unrest, the worst seen in Paris since the May 1968 student uprising, on agitation by the Socialist and Communist opposition, but student leaders say their goals are apolitical.

S. Korean opposition postpones rallies

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Opposition leaders said Saturday they were postponing nationwide rallies planned for next weekend after massive police action foiled a similar gathering in Seoul one week ago.

On Wednesday, the New Korean Democratic Party (NKDP) announced it would hold rallies in nine provincial cities next weekend to push its demands for a direct presidential election.

The government and the ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) immediately served notice that all-out efforts would be made to thwart such rallies.

Last Saturday, the government mobilised at least 70,000 police who sealed off parts of the South Korean capital and used tear gas to disperse a scheduled mass gathering by those opposing the government of President Chun Doo Hwan.

Word of postponement followed a meeting between Lee Min-Woo, president of the major opposition party, and Kim Young-Sam and Kim Dae-Jung, the country's two best-known dissident leaders.

It was held at Kim Dae-Jung's home instead of a downtown restaurant, as scheduled, because Mr. Kim earlier in the day was placed under house arrest. Although he was told he could not leave his home over the weekend, some visitors were allowed to enter.

Kim Dae-Jung still is under a suspended 20-year sentence on a sedition conviction that stripped him of his civil rights and barred him from political activity.

It was the 39th time Kim Dae-Jung had been placed under house arrest since he returned in February 1985 from self-exile in the United States, aides said.

The two Kims and Mr. Lee said the rallies would be held sometime next year instead of next weekend.

While the announcement did not spell out reasons for postponing the provincial rallies, Mr. Kim Young-Sam said earlier that, despite a tougher government stand on revising the constitution, non-violence was the only course for the opposition to take.

Shultz got Brunei to aid contras

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Secretary of State George Shultz successfully lobbied the Sultan of oil-rich Brunei to give several million dollars to the Nicaraguan contras, according to a report published Saturday.

Unidentified Reagan administration officials said the money was funneled through a Swiss bank account administered by Lt.-Col. Oliver North, the fired National Security Council aide under investigation in the transfer of Iran arms sale profits to the contras, the Los Angeles Times reported.

Col. North apparently left no clear record of the money, provided last summer by Sultan Mada Hassanali Bolkiah, Brunei's strongly anti-Communist ruler. Justice Department investigators are trying to determine what happened to the funds, the newspaper said.

A contra spokesman, Bosco Matamoros, said he knew nothing about any money from Brunei.

"I don't know where Brunei is," Matamoros said.

Several officials questioned by the newspaper indicated there was no reason to suspect Col. North personally profited from the transaction.

Elliott Abrams, assistant secretary of state in charge in Latin America, suggested asking for help from Brunei, a tiny nation on the South East Asian island of Borneo whose oil and gas revenue give it one of the highest per capita incomes in the world, according to several officials quoted by the Times.

At Mr. Abrams' suggestion, Mr. Shultz earlier this year lobbied the Sultan, who agreed to help the Nicaraguan rebels, the Times said.

U.S. officials then gave him the number of a secret Swiss bank account, a number which Col. North had given to Mr. Abrams, the newspaper said.

Neither Mr. Shultz nor Mr. Abrams would comment on the report. State Department Spokesman Charles Redman also refused to confirm or deny that Mr. Shultz had solicited the contribution, but said, "there would be nothing illegal or improper about such an action."

Congress cut off U.S. military aid to the rebels in 1984 and restored it in October. During that time, the administration was permitted to solicit only humanitarian aid for the contras.

Attorney General Edwin Meese III said last week that between \$10 million and \$30 million from sales of arms to Iran had been diverted to the contras.

The CIA said the Brunei money did not pass through its hands, the Times reported.

The Times also reported Saturday that a written White House report of the Iran arms deal used to brief Congress and to refute allegations that President Reagan had early knowledge of the affair was compiled by Col. North and omits significant details of the programme.

An unidentified administration official quoted by the newspaper said the administration has relied on Col. North's account because "there isn't anybody to get" a more reliable history from.

"All the records have been segregated," the official said.

Filipino voter registration begins

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Filipinos turned out in small numbers at registration centres throughout the country Saturday to sign up for a constitutional plebiscite and general election intended to stabilise President Corason Aquino's 10-month-old revolutionary government.

The government launched the registration, conducted this weekend and next, with a Telenon in which officials and movie stars joined Mrs. Aquino in appealing to voters to register.

Vicente De Lima, executive director of the Commission on Elections, predicted "heavy turnout" at most of the 85,000 registration centres throughout the country.

"That's too optimistic," said Commission Chairman Ramon Felipe Jr. of De Lima's prediction that between 5 million and 10 million voters would register by the end of the day.

"Normally, you can't expect a

heavy turnout on the first day," Mr. Felipe said, adding he expects the number of registrants to pick up Sunday and next weekend.

Reporters who toured Manila centres reported only handfuls of registrants at many of the capital's 12,000 listing stations.

The government's radio and television stations, and the Philippine News Agency (PNA) also reported light turnouts in several provinces.

A PNA reporter said that in one registration station in Manila's Binondo district, only 17 voters had signed up eight hours after registration began.

PNA, reporting from at least five provinces, described turnout as light in the centres except the one in the province of Cebu.

Mrs. Aquino declared Saturday and Dec. 13 special public holidays to help the process.

Mr. Felipe said he expects up to 25 million voters, nearly half the population, to sign up by Dec. 14.

But, he said, the commission will not know the number of voters until after Jan. 10.

Filipinos 18 and older are qualified to vote.

The plebiscite is for ratification of a draft constitution on Feb. 2.

Elections will be held on May 11 to fill seats in a new legislature, replacing one that Mrs. Aquino dissolved shortly after she came to power last February in a "people power" revolution ousted Ferdinand Marcos.

"The ballot is the most powerful instrument of the sovereign will to dictate the future of the nation," Mrs. Aquino said in a nationwide radio and television broadcast.

She was scheduled to register later Saturday in her home province of Tarlac, 80 kilometres north west of Manila.

Mrs. Aquino warned against untrained forces who "do not believe the fate of our nation should be decided by the people but rather by force."

Mozambican leader faces up to crises

MAPUTO (R) — Mourning for the late President Samora Machel continues but his successor, Joaquim Chissano, is already charting changes for war-devastated Mozambique.

At his first public appearance since taking office last month, the soft-spoken Chissano summoned the international press and set a business-like tone as he acknowledged the huge problems besetting the country.

There had not been a big news conference in this run-down capital for years. Although the new president announced no major initiatives at his meeting with the press on Thursday, indications were of imminent change.

Switching easily between Portuguese and English, he spoke of a diplomatic campaign to win the help of other countries in the 11-year civil war against right-wing rebels and outlined a new, more liberal, economic programme.

There was no Marxist dogma, no opening statement. Unlike his ebullient predecessor, Mr. Chissano's manner was low-key and his answers were franker than some expected.

They fitted Western diplomats' favourite label for the 47-year-old former foreign minister — a pragmatist.

Mr. Chissano acknowledged widespread hunger and poverty

among the 13 million Mozambicans, whose country has not known peace for 15 years and has been plagued by drought and natural disasters.

Asked to confirm reports that Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) rebels had a footing in eight of Mozambique's 10 provinces, he corrected his questioner by stating "the terrorists" were operating in every province.

In fact, the position is so serious, foreign residents are advised not to travel more than seven kilometres north from the Indian Ocean villa where Mr. Chissano spoke.

He did not deny rumours here that Tanzania was about to join Zimbabwe in lending Maputo a military hand in the civil war. "I will not describe what the tasks will be," he added.

Mr. Machel, who died in a plane crash in South Africa last October, had largely run Mozambique on Socialist lines since its independence from Portuguese rule in 1975.

After mounting food shortages stripped Maputo's open-air markets bare of vegetables, he last year allowed private enterprise a limited role. This week, the vegetables were back in the markets but hardly any consumer goods were in the shops.

Mr. Chissano's most significant changes could well be on the

economic front. He spoke of austerity measures, hinted at a more liberal economy and an imminent administrative shake-up. The state apparatus, Mr. Chissano said, must undergo "corrective measures."

Agricultural development will be the top priority and industry had to produce more consumer goods, he said. In the short term, it looks like inflicting more pain on the long-suffering Mozambicans.

"It's like removing a parasite from your foot. When you do that it hurts, but in the end it is beneficial," the new president explained.

While Mr. Chissano singled out Western nations for the aid they are giving Mozambique, his press conference did nothing to clarify future relations with the Soviet Union.

Soviet civilian advisers are still evident in Maputo's grandiose Polana Hotel and Russian officers are out in the bush with the hard-pressed Mozambican army.

Western diplomats however are intrigued by the treatment of the new Soviet Ambassador Nikolai Dybenko, who has been in Maputo since Mr. Machel's funeral in October.

While other diplomats say access to the government has not yet been called to present his credentials.

Runners for world peace arrive in San Diego

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The Earth Run, a \$1 million United Nations-sponsored effort to promote nutrition and health care for children, arrived in San Diego on its way across the United States to New York City.

An international group of eight runners carrying a torch representing world peace was in San Diego on Friday. The runners were scheduled to arrive Saturday afternoon at Santa Monica Pier, 24 kilometres west of downtown Los Angeles.

The torch, which was ignited on Sept. 16 at United Nations Plaza in New York, has been carried across five continents and through 85 cities en route to a Dec. 11 closing ceremony in New York.

An eternal flame will be lighted during the closing ceremony to mark the 40th anniversary of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF).

"It is heartening to see Californians continue this rich spirit of cooperation that has followed the torch throughout the world," UNICEF Deputy Director Reinard Freiberg said. "Earth Run has allowed millions to say that funds for

defence could be better utilised for social services so children can live in dignity."

Millions of spectators have cheered the torch as it passed through parts of Canada, Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Asia, China, Australia and South America, often joined by local runners.

Among the highlights of the run were a blessing delivered by Pope John Paul II in Lyon, France, a peace rally in Leningrad, and a celebration in Shanghai that was attended by a million people, a UNICEF spokesman said.

The torchbearers entered the United States from Mexico on Friday and were honoured at ceremonies in San Diego. In California, they will run through San Clemente, Huntington Beach, Buena Park, Venice and Santa Monica.

The runners will be escorted by Santa Claus and a "nine-Porsche sleigh" to Santa Monica Place Mall for a holiday celebration featuring Actor Michael Landon, Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley, entertainment by the International Children's Choir and lighting of a 12-metre Christmas tree by Freiberg.

Granadians satisfied with Bishop's murder verdicts

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada (AP) — Grenadians have expressed satisfaction with the sentences given 17 people convicted of killing Prime Minister Maurice Bishop in October 1983.

"No one feels sorry for them," said a shopkeeper, who asked not to be identified.

"People have said to me, 'why aren't they to be hanged tomorrow?' Thought of course that can't be done," said Lloyd Noel who resigned in 1980 as attorney general of Bishop's Marxist People's Revolutionary Movement government.

A clergyman, who asked not to be identified, said his parishioners didn't understand why murder charges against three defendants were reduced to manslaughter.

"(But) everyone agrees the prison sentences (ranging from 30 to 45 years) were a reasonable length of time," the clergyman said.

Convicted of ordering or carrying out the firing-squad execution of Mr. Bishop and seven colleagues were former Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard, People's Revolutionary Army Gen. Hudson Austin, former Ambassador to Cuba Leon

Conwall, Coard's wife Phyllis, and 10 other soldiers or members of the central Committee of Mr. Bishop's New Jewel Movement.

The penalty for murder in Grenada is death by hanging.

The shootings at Fort Rupert followed a power struggle within the New Jewel Movement that resulted in Mr. Bishop's arrest on Oct. 13, 1983, by party members considered more militantly Communist than the prime minister.

Six days later, a crowd of 15,000 freed Mr. Bishop from house arrest and marched with him to army headquarters at Fort Rupert, where soldiers laid down their weapons.

But soldiers sent from nearby Fort Frederick arrived in armoured personnel carriers to take control. Although more than 100 Grenadians were believed to have died in the attack, the murder charges were based on the deaths of three people killed in the operations room in the initial attack and the eight executed by firing squad inside the fort.

Prime Minister Herbert Blaize has promised an investigation into the other deaths when the murder trial proceedings are over.



'Big Ben' drops a 'dong'

LONDON (R) — "Big Ben" the world's most famous clock, relayed a different set of chimes around the globe when a 150-year-old part of the striking mechanism snapped in two due to metal fatigue. An engineer working on the clock, housed in a tower at the House of Commons, told Reuters the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) — which relays the chimes live on its world service — had called him in the early hours of the morning to tell him about the problem. "One of the 'dongs' didn't 'dong'," he said. The clock has now been repaired.

Thatcher's daughter quits Daily Telegraph

LONDON (R) — Carol Thatcher, daughter of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, is leaving her job as a feature writer at the conservative Daily Telegraph, the newspaper has said. Her departure, which the paper said was by mutual agreement, followed a row over a controversial interview with Princess Michael of Kent in which the princess said she had a more aristocratic ancestry than other princesses who had married into the British royal family. Thatcher, 32, said the article was rejected by the Telegraph. It later appeared in a Women's magazine and other dailies and Thatcher said she was then asked to leave the paper. But a statement from the Telegraph, where Thatcher had worked for four years, said both sides agreed there had been a misunderstanding over the Princess Michael interview and that Thatcher's departure was no reflection on her ability as a journalist.

Gumman interrupts fiance's abortion

TURIN, Italy (AP) — Panic broke out in a hospital when a gun-wielding man interrupted doctors as they prepared to perform an abortion on his fiancee, authorities said. Police said the man, identified as 25-year-old medical student Simone Levi, was upset over the woman's decision not to have their child. The couple went together to the Sant'Anna Gynaecological Hospital, and Levi asked doctors if he could take part in the procedure as a medical student, police said. Doctors agreed and Levi, as required, donned a surgical gown and slippers. He burst into the operating room waving a .22-caliber pistol, fired a shot into the ceiling and shouted, "get her out of here now," police said. As other patients and nurses fled in panic, the doctors took the woman to a recovery room where a hospital attendant managed to distract Levi and take the gun away from him. Levi was taken away by police for questioning. The woman was being sent home without having the abortion, the hospital said.

Turkey has first woman police chief

ANKARA (R) — Turkey has its first woman head of a district police station, the semi-official Anatolian News Agency reported. It said Superintendent Nazli Senlik had taken over Sumer precinct in the south eastern town of Malatya, in charge of three deputy superintendents and 48 officers. Although sexual equality is legally guaranteed in most fields, Turkey is predominantly male-led.

Grant leaves estate to wife, daughter, friends and charities

SANTA MONICA, California (AP) — Cary Grant left \$255,000 to friends and charities and left his home and furnishings to his wife, and stipulated the rest of the estate should be divided between his wife and daughter, according to provisions of the deceased actor's will. In his will, filed Wednesday, Grant also declared that items from his party wardrobe could go to such friends as Frank Sinatra and financier and MGM-UA Communications Corp. chief Kirk Kerkorian. The will leaves Grant's fifth wife, Barbara Harris Grant, his Beverly Hills home and all his "tangible personal property," including household furniture, art works and automobiles. In the will, which was signed Nov. 26, 1984, Grant's wife also receives half the remaining estate, while the other half will be held in a trust fund over a period of years for his 20-year-old daughter, Jennifer, said Attorney Jay J. Stein.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠A106 ♠AK93 ♣A32 ♠A105
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?

Q.2 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A105 ♠986 ♠KQ876 ♠93
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 1 ♠ 2 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass
What action do you take?

Q.3 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A1096 ♠AK763 ♠AQ85
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
What do you bid now?

Q.4 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠9863 ♠Q ♠AJ73 ♠AK85
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 ♠ Dble 1 ♠ Dble
Pass Pass 2 ♠ Pass
Pass
What action do you take?

Q.5 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠Q73 ♠763 ♠KQ10 ♠J854
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
Pass Pass Pass 1 ♠
Pass 1 ♠ Pass Pass
Dble Pass
What action do you take?

Q.6 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠984 ♠J1096 ♠K9 ♠J10763
Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What action do you take?